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Closure rumours are disturbing Munich 'Bierkeller' regulars

Arnulfstrasse in Munich is, at the moment, one of the ugliest in a Bavarian capital which is hideously pock-marked with building sites.

But just a stone's throw away from this waste land of stone and sand there is a sight of Arcadian beauty. Full-blown trees, waitresses carrying foaming mugs of beer and contented people laughing, drinking and talking.

This is the *Augustiner Keller* one of the most popular of Munich's beer-drinkers' delights. When the weather is fine all 5,000 hard garden seats are regularly filled.

And the *Augustiner Keller* knows no snobbery; work-soiled hands, white collars and blue blood are all to be found there.

Sigi Sommer, otherwise known as "Blasius" sits under a particularly fine specimen of chestnut tree and holds court. Occasionally he sits there and engages in discussion with Franz-Josef Strauss, head of the Christian Social Union. When he does you can be sure that the text of their conversation will be in Sigi's *Abendzeitung* (Evening News) next day.

Bavarian Economic Affairs Minister Otto Schedl and burgomaster Hans-Jochen Vogel sometimes make an appearance there to quench their thirst. It is a favourite haunt of actors and men of letters who usually have a long-legged wench in tow who looks far more as though she belongs in Schwabing, Munich's Bohemian quarter.

Every now and again the locals are stricken by panic – word goes around that this oasis is to be sold and demolished. Each time this persistent rumour is heard the proprietor of the *Augustiner Keller* hotly denies it. But recently the rumour caused panic verging on a state of emergency.

The *Münchner Bürgerrat* (Munich citizens' committee), a society of passionately pro Bavaria, pro Munich patriots, swung into action and called for a public denial that there was any substance in malicious rumours that this bastion of Munich life was to be swept away.

Their action and the attention it received in the Bavarian capital showed conclusively that this was a weak spot with the people of Munich, a heritage to which they would cling with all their might rather than lose it.

Rudolf Hanauer, President of the Bavarian Regional Assembly, has his own expression for the *Keller's* significance: (if we lose the *Augustiner Keller*) "our *international city with heart* would suffer a heart attack!"

It is strange that the people of Munich should feel such affection for what is really only the garden of a pub, when generally they are thought of as being *Bierkeller* inhabitants.

Here a difficult question of terminology arises because the word *Keller* ceases to mean "cellar" when the word *Bier* is prefixed. This is the etymology:

In olden days, when refrigerators had not been invented, but beer had, Munich's brewers used to store their barrels of the precious liquid on the hills surrounding the city. They planted trees, usually chestnut, to provide shade.

Quickly they realised that these pleasant surroundings were not only good for storing the beer, but made an ideal spot to drink it! In strict Munich parlance one does not go "into" a beer cellar, but *up to* one. This was the origin of the Romance of the typical *Bierkeller*. But in recent years several of these Elysian Fields for beer drinkers have been closed or cut in size. At the turn of the century, the city archives tell us, there were about thirty. Now only about fifteen remain. Most of these are in or near the city centre and the value of their sites far outweighs the income they make. In addition to this it is extremely difficult to find staff. The temptation for the owners to sell is great. The *Bürgerrat* and other patriotic people in Munich want to stop the rot. Some amazing war-cries have emerged from this battle. Someone was heard to bewail the loss of "a liberal style of living", since "cabinet ministers and builders' labourers sit at the same table" in a *Bierkeller*.

This is all very well, but how talk of "a liberal style of living" fits in with some of the other war-cries we have heard is difficult to ascertain. There is nothing liberal about the citizens' committee's demand that the city should put a compulsory purchase order on *Bierkeller* in order to ensure their survival.

Rudolf Grosskopf

(DIE WELT, 1 August 1970)



Drinking outside at the Löwenbrau beer cellar

(Photo: ...)

The German Tribune

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Holy See relaxes attitudes towards East Bloc

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

After twenty years of trying the Holy See has scored a first success with its realistic approach towards the Eastern Bloc. Diplomatic relations with Belgrade broken off eighteen years ago in connection with the conviction of Archbishop Stepinac on grounds of alleged collaboration with the Fascists, have been reestablished.

Mgr Agostino Casaroli, to all intents and purposes Vatican Foreign Minister, recently visited the Yugoslav capital to discuss past and present problems in relations between the Roman Catholic Church and the socialist Tito regime.

It was not merely a matter of non-nationalised Church possessions and unhindered religious instruction in a number of schools. International political considerations were also involved.

The Holy See would like to establish normal relations with all Eastern Bloc countries, including the Soviet Union. The main topic discussed by Tito and Casaroli in Brioni was the implementation of Vatican detente moves dating from the days of Pius XII and John XXIII to Paul VI and the present.

During his state visit to Rome in October President Tito will be given a full-scale reception in the Vatican as befits a head of state. This should prove a starting-point for fresh developments.

Vatican diplomats are particularly fascinated by a prospect that will not be unwelcome as far as the "liberal" non-Warsaw Pact Tito regime is concerned either. Belgrade, they feel, could prove to be a first base for further Vatican foreign policy activity in the East in the interests of peace.

The Italian government took this same first step prior to establishing normal relations with all Eastern Europe.

The Holy See views the East as a *Lebensraum* in which it is duty bound to do more than try to safeguard the religious freedom of Roman Catholics living there. The peace appeals of the last three Popes are seen as an incentive to try to strike a balance between East and West.

Belgrade is to "support the endeavour to promote tolerance both in the religious sector and in relations between nations," it was announced in the Yugoslav capital following Mgr Casaroli's visit.

Casaroli also talked in terms of the "major task of peace and cooperation between nations." It was, he said, the first visit by a Vatican official of his rank to a socialist country. Which will be the next? Poland, Hungary, Rumania? Moscow? The ball has started rolling.

It must be assumed that Papal diplomacy is untrammelled by ideological considerations, that is, realistic and pragmatic in nature. It is offering its spiritual authority in support of an arrangement between the peoples in return for the granting of basic rights to practising Roman Catholics in atheist countries.

This was the basic aim of Pius XII, one of the Church's most daring realists in days gone by. His efforts to make contact with the Soviet Union, which date back to 1948, were continued by "idealist" John XXIII.

To the horror of a number of Curia cardinals and the anti-communist right wing in Italy Pope John received Andrei Adzhubei and his wife Rada, née Khrushchev, in the Vatican, cunningly granting them an audience that departed from all the customary rules of protocol.

That was in 1963. Three years later Paul VI granted Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko a private audience. In 1966 Soviet President Podgorny was given a full-scale reception in the Vatican, the strains of the Internationale resounding through the Holy See.

Shortly afterwards, in connection with the Council, the Secretariat for Non-Believers was set up, headed by Cardinal König, and soon succeeded in forging manifold links with the East.

In much the same manner Cardinal Willebrands, as he now is, followed in the far-sighted footsteps of Cardinal Bea and persuaded representatives of the Russian Orthodox Church to attend the Vatican Council as observers.

Setbacks were suffered on account of Poland. Domestic policy conflict in Warsaw made it impossible for Paul VI to make a pilgrimage to Czestochowa and see the country and bless the nation that is dearest to the Roman Church in the East as France once was in the West.

But on the face of it, at least, international political developments continued in the direction of detente, the latest move being the conclusion of a treaty renouncing the use of force between Bonn and Moscow.

Even before this treaty came about the Holy See had approved of Bonn's attempts to bring about a relaxation of tension from the Adenauer era to the present.

When Chancellor Brandt paid the Vatican a state visit on 13 July last Paul VI stated in connection with Bonn's policy towards the Eastern Bloc that he gave his blessing to all attempts to serve the interests of peace.

This was a key comment and its significance has not been made clear enough in many cases for reasons of domestic politics. Paul VI could not and would not say more for fear of offending the Christian Democratic and Christian Social Unions in this country.

Vatican approval became self-evident following the signing of the treaty in Moscow. Willy Brandt had not exaggerated in saying in Rome that "The Pope has given me every encouragement."

What else was to be expected? It was bound gradually to become apparent that Vatican Eastern policy has much in common with Bonn's as far as a realistic approach and the hope of new and peaceable relations between all nations is concerned.

This pragmatic approach towards Eastern policy is all the more noteworthy for the Papal Curia having grown increasingly conservative as far as Church policy is concerned.

In this dialectic of political adaptation and consistent defence of its own position as traditionally viewed the Church of Rome has changed little since the days of Charlemagne.

Gustav René Hocke

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 31 August 1970)



Next one, please!

(Cartoon: Geisen/Hannoversche Presse)

Mid-East crisis will top UN General Assembly agenda

The forthcoming UN General Assembly, which is to be attended by a large number of heads of state, will probably be the occasion of the first meeting between Premier Kosygin and President Nixon.

Chancellor Brandt also intends to go to New York for the General Assembly. It remains to be seen whether discussions will take place between the heads of government of the West on problems relating to the Bonn-Moscow Treaty.

The German Question will, however, definitely play a crucial role this time. The Chancellor will have to explain under what circumstances he is prepared to advocate UN membership of two German states, particularly as motions to this effect are bound to be tabled now that the Federal government has made its declaration of intent.

The main topic will nonetheless be the situation in the Middle East and the relationship between America and the Soviet Union that it reflects. Latest reports from the White House indicate readiness to go a long way towards committing the United States in the Middle East.

This readiness is evidently the result of a realisation that Soviet presence in the Eastern Mediterranean can no longer be eliminated – with the result that the United States is bound to draw up proposals for coexistence between the two powers in this area.

As far as reports from the White House can be credited the United States is thinking in terms of setting up a joint US-Soviet peace force under the aegis of the UN should a peace settlement be agreed.

The idea is to defuse rivalry between the two great powers in the region by introducing a peacemaking role and at all events to forestall an uncontrolled clash between their respective client states.

This virtually amounts to a great power condominium in the Middle East, which is far from being the ideal solution as far as the Middle East countries involved are themselves concerned.

The outbreak of renewed conflict could be prevented but little could be achieved in respect of long-term neighbourly developments between Arabs and Israelis. They might well even maintain their enmity behind the protective shield afforded by the two superpowers.

Yet whatever view may be held of the prospects of success of these plans they certainly alter the position as regards the relations between the great powers, which is not without significance for the future development of the United Nations.

(TAGESSPIEGEL, 29 August 1970)

IN THIS ISSUE



FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Peking diplomacy re-awakes to activity in many crucial areas

After a long break Mao Tse-tung is welcoming visitors from North Korea, Rumania, France, Tanzania and Zambia again. Sudanese, South Yemenis, Palestinians and representatives of the Congolese People's Republic have also visited the Chinese capital.

After years of isolationism resulting from the cultural revolution Peking is reactivating the diplomacy of official visits. People's China has not lost its attraction either.

One is tempted to rate the confusion of recent years a period of high fever that has now subsided. The political temperature has now fallen to normal Maoist.

Chinese Premier Chou En-lai will shortly be going on tour too. The only visit that has officially been announced is one to the South Yemen but it is rumoured in diplomatic circles that he will also be



visiting France, Rumania, Albania, Pakistan, Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia and Congo Brazzaville.

Is People's China launching a foreign policy offensive? At the present stage this would, perhaps, be a little too much to assert. Peking must first repair diplomatic relations that have been subjected to serious strain.

This is the idea of sending ambassadors to countries in which Peking ws represented by an ambassador up till 1966 or 1967 who was recalled in the course of the cultural revolution.

The appointment of diplomats to fill 38 embassy posts vacant for years is the absolute minimum of diplomacy – and interesting conclusions can be drawn from some. After a campaign of vilification of Titoism that has been under way for nigh on fifteen years Peking has appointed a new ambassador to Belgrade. The Chinese are readier to dismount from the high horse of Maoist ideology than a number of people in the West seem prepared to believe.

Once importance is attached to Yugoslavia in the dispute with Soviet "social imperialism" the Chinese have no compunction in departing from the stark extremism of their ideology for opportunist reasons.

At the same time Peking agreed to exchange ambassadors with Moscow again too. This is another pointer to the oscillation between utopianism and pragmatism since the establishment of People's China.

Following a period during which China might have been the only ountry in the world as far as Maoists were concerned and they churned out propaganda in all directions they are now in a position to take a clearer view of the world around them and accept it for what it is without sacrificing one iota of their ideological convictions.

The exchange of ambassadors with Moscow is far from a pointer towards reconciliation with the Kremlin. Peking appears merely to be turning back the clock of ideological conflict to the mid-sixties when despite respect for the requirements of international protocol the enmity between Peking and Moscow was as irreconcilable as it it now.

It looks as though Chinese foreign policy makers would like to start again where they were forced to leave off at the onset of the cultural revolution.

Their main target is, of course, East Asia, where Peking is engaged in energetic efforts to bring the Soviet political advance to a standstill.

With Moscow still having to find a convincing approach to the new situation in Indo-China Cambodia has come as a stroke of good luck for China. Peking is continually assuring ousted Prince Sihanouk of its support until final victory.

China's ready commitment in Cambodia has made East Asian Communist more favourable towards Peking while the Soviet Unions has lost political terrain gradually gained by dint of relentless effort.

The Chinese appear deliberately to be competing politically, economically and ideologically with the Soviet Union not only in neighbouring Asian countries but also in its East African and South Arabian bridgeheads.

The reactivation of Chinese foreign policy in the Arab world will probably soon be felt by President Nasser, who has been written off by the Chinese since he has become a political client and military protégé of Soviet Union.

Maoists have been quick to side [...] the people to the political left of [...] in the conflict with Israel and courting the "Palestinian people."

People's China is once again a fact[...] international political relations but [...] not seem to have departed much fro[m] traditional concept. The gates in [...] Great Wall opened at long last and [...] out to be pillars at long last and made [...] to be pillars of pragmatism are prag[...] only in relation to the isolationism [...] cultural revolution.

Peking remains committed to the [prin]ciple of its "anti-imperialist" tw[...] campaign against both the United [...] and the Soviet Union.

Hans W. Vahlef[...]

(DIE WELT, 27 August [1970])

All quiet in Prague on 21 August

In its final news item on 21 August, the second anniversary of the of the Russian invasion, CTK, the official Czech news agency, reported that 6,271 people had been handed over to the police and more than 800 remanded in custody.

The agency made this out to be a kind of civtory over criminals and "enemies of society." Measured by any yardstick other than communist the distinction between the two is probably vague indeed in individual cases. "Enemy of society" is an ideological offence.

A contradictory victory report was carried by *Rude Pravo*, the Prague Party daily, according to which the anniversary had been uneventful and counter-revolution, as could be seen, annihilated.

Peace and quiet is the order of the day for Czech and Slovak Communists. The memorial to King Wenceslas was cordoned off and flowers on the grave of Jan Palach, the student who set fire to himself in protest against the Russian invasion, were removed because they disturbed the peace.

Peace and quiet there was but not even First Secretary Husak would go so far as to assert that the anniversary went unnoticed by the general public, every effort having of course been made to convey this impression.

The crowing police report exposed these efforts for what they were. Continual vilification of the Prague reformers, purges, dismissals and expulsions from the Party serve only to keep memories fresh.

The continual campaignon against advocates of reform has so far largely stood substitute for a grogramme of reconstruction that might have gained widespread public support. The spirit that is spreading abroad could be called one of resignation.

No one with any common sense will have expected or even hoped for an uprising on the anniversary. Nothing can be done in the face of Soviet tanks.

The Times nonetheless has a point when it asks what justification there can now be for their continued presence in Czechoslovakia when the Federal Republic, which was alleged to behind the "counter-revolution," is Moscow's partner in a treaty renouncing the use of force and so no longer represents a threat to the Czech frontier.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 26 August 1970)

Agnew visits Far East to encourage America's Asian friends

Vice-President Spiro T. Agnew's East Asian trip is taking place against the background of President Nixon's declared policy of American troop cuts but unchanged willingness to be of material assistance to Asian countries prepared to defend themselves against communist aggression.

This so-called Nixon doctrine has almost inevitably met with misunderstanding from two quarters. Opponents of American commitment in South-East Asia have reached the mistaken conclusion that the President has merely sought and found a convenient formula to conceal the fact of defeat.

Since the surprise American intervention in Cambodia they will have revised this opinion but US allies in Eastern Asia, on the other hand, are registering a certain disappointment, not to say panic.

Either they feel themselves incapable of the additional efforts their powerful ally demands of them or they too believe in or are afraid of the doctrine merely being a means of papering over an American pull-out.

Mr Agnew, whose aim it is to dispel fears of this kind, has taken on no easy task. Thishas been apparent on the very first leg of his tour, in Seoul, where unease about the projected withdrawal of 20,000 US troops, roughly a third of America's troop strength in Korea, has been dispelled neither by the announcement that a squadron of US fighter jets is to be transferred from Japan nor by the assurance of additional arms supplies.

The stopover in Taiwan may well be intended to warn Nationalist China against engaging in military adventures that might provoke the Red Chinese colossus into launched counter-attacks and so lead to undesirable complications.

Thailand, which is unquestionably one of the countries that resort to self-help, is in need of American backing every bit as much as Cambodia, which was not originally intended to be one of Mr Agnew's ports of call.

In announcing a comprehensive programme of military aid for Cambodia Washington has abandoned its initial reserve towards the new regime in Pnom Penh. Were critical developments to arise here Mr Nixon's plans to pull 150,000 GIs out of Vietnam by May next year would run into serious trouble.

The fate of South-East Asia will as ever be decided in South Vietnam, where the combat role of US troops is to end in July 1971. President Nixon is still banking on a negotiated solution. The new round of Paris talks will soon indicate how great the prospects of success are.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 26 August 1970)

Hungarians edge closer to a more liberal policy

Rumanian State Council Chairman [and] First Secretary Nicolae Ceau[sescu] has so far combined a fairly indepe[ndent] foreign policy line with strong go[vern]ment at home, maintaining a cer[tain] balance and managing not to o[...] provoke the Soviet Union, which [...] often enough followed Rumanian e[s]capades with mistrut.

If anything the Hungarians ha[ve] adopted the opposite tactics. They ha[ve] remained loyal to the Soviet Union['s] foreign policy – witness their partic[ipa]tion in the invasion of Czechoslova[kia] two years ago – and so secured a cer[tain] leeway on the home front.

Judged by Eastern European standa[rds] the Hungarian Communist Party has t[he] reputation of being liberal. It now evide[nt]ly feels the time has come for a furthe[r] step in this direction if the agenda of t[he] tenth party conference, due to be held i[n] November, is anything to go by.

There is talk of abuse of power with[in] the party and supression of criticis[m]. According to these tenets Marxist r[e]visionist theory is not to be dealt with [as] a dogma or self-contained system.

This savours of reform Communism[.] [The] limits are of course outlined. There is [to] be no revisionist distortion of doctri[ne] and no emergence of factions within the party. All in all this document represe[nts] a cautious attempt to adapt the party to the requirements of a general tenor of debate.

(Handelsblatt, 25 August 1970)

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POLITICS

Kiesinger failed to realise foreign policy opposition would lead nowhere

Whatever the advantages and setbacks arising from the Moscow Treaty between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union maybe we already know what gains and losses have been made as a result of it on the domestic political scene.

By initialling the Treaty and successfully negotiating the round of talks prior to it Foreign Minister Walter Scheel has boosted his prestige, which had virtually sunk to nil.

The signing of the Treaty has benefited the government coalition and its supporters who had begun to lose confidence in their own powers. They have regained their self-confidence and now look far more convincing to the electorate.

Apart from the prestige they gained from the successful mission to Moscow their ventures into foreign policy have managed to draw people's attention away from their economic and social welfare policies which have not had such success.

Those with sufficient insight were saying long ago that if the Opposition concentrated on attacking the government's foreign policies they would be bound to emerge from the fray the vanquished. These people were right.

As chairmen of the CDU and CSU Kurt Georg Kiesinger and Franz Josef Strauss took up the fight against the government on the field of foreign policy largely out of personal feelings and political conviction.

They were probably misled into overestimating their position following the provincial assembly elections in the Saar, North Rhine-Westphalia and Lower Saxony. These successes were following less a positive vote for the Opposition than a vote of no confidence in the government's activities or rather its erstwhile inactivity on the field of economics.

The decisions to place the emphasis of their opposition on foreign policies ran contrary to a basic understanding of the climate of public opinion at the time.

An opposition that is fought largely on foreign policy rarely proves particularly popular among the electorate. Examples of this are Kurt Schumacher's opposition to Konrad Adenauer, the Democrat's opposition to Richard Nixon and the opposition of right- and left-wing groups in France to de Gaulle's European policy.

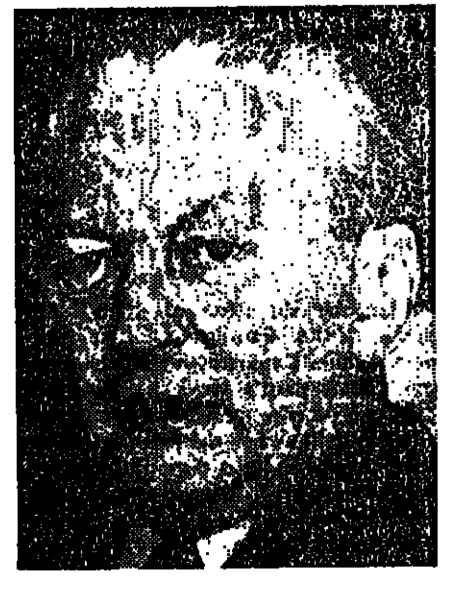
The reasons for this are easy to see. In its foreign policy a government is fighting for the dignity of the whole country and does not appear to the general public anywhere near as susceptible to the vagaries of party politics as in its domestic policies.

As a result the government can do plenty of good public relations work. What has been the overriding impression of the Moscow Treaty gained by members of the general public? The CDU/CSU's pointing finger extracting certain passages of the Treaty and the interpretation they give of these passages does not make such a great impression on the public as the television pictures of the Treaty being signed or of the Chancellor being greeted and honoured as a VIP by Brezhnev and Kosygin.

An Opposition concertrating on foreign policies often finds itself in a dilemma, unable to decide whether to give the government covering fire against those on the other side of the negotiating table and to help the government to a far more satisfactory conclusion to talks than it could possibly achieve on its own, or whether to rejoice at the setbacks and defeats which the government and hence the country suffers.

The case of the Moscow Treaty was further complicated by the fact that the government was running the risk not only of being condemnend for incompetence if it failed but also accused of trason.

Criticism of manor details of a treaty appears clumsy when that treaty representsthe future of a former empire and the end of the previous pan-German policy. The CDU/CSU has realised that it



Kurt Georg Kiesinger

(Photo: Sven Simon)

is not capable of such polemic, that it is cutting no ice with the electorate, that it has no great confidence in its own moves and, mercifully it has not pursued this line blindly.

What should the CDU/CSU have done? And what can they still do?In one word: wait. They must follow the talks on Berlin closely and meticulously, concentrate on the government's domestic policies and only attack Ostpolitik at times when the government's enthusiasm for detente with the East leads it to overstep the mark.

Johannes Gross

(CHRIST UND WELT, 28 August 1970)

Opposition rejects Barzel's delaying tactics

The leader of the Opposition in the Bundestag, Rainer Barzel, obviously had more difficulty on Wednesday 26 August to persuade the Christian Democrat party executive to follow his line of playing a waiting game on passing judgement on the government's *Ostpolitik* than was the case a fortnight ago, when he first expounded this strategy and put it to his party.

The party executive debated for longer than expected behind closed doors opposition to the Moscow Treaty, which the CDU chairman, Kurt Georg Kiesinger, and CSU politicians Franz Josef Strauss and Karl-Theodor Freiherr von und zu Guttenberg raised in the sharpest terms, seems to have taken effect.

Barzel's attempt to postpone the parliamentary party's vote until the results of all the government's Ostpolitik activities are known has been hotly contested.

This well thought-out procedure has, in the meantime, been highly praised within the party, in the Bonn coalition and by the public at large. It has its advantages and dangers. Again and again CDU/CSU politicians fall victim to the temptation to aim at polemics at the Moscow Treaty.

As the acting party chairman, Gerhard Stoltenberg, said it will be all e more difficult to carry out a "constructive dialogue" with the government in the face of the forthcoming elections to provincial essemblies at which, generally speaking, there will be an excess of talking.

If the Opposition plans to abide by this concept it will have to prepare itself for long-term silence or at least partial silence. A decision on Berlin which will be the touchstone for Moscow's goodwill cannot be taken in a day.

There may well be a gap between what the government considers a satisfactory agreement on Berlin and the Opposition's views of possible conpromises affored by Moscow. What would happen then?

Meantime treaties with Poland and Czechoslovakia well under way and it is possible that negotiations can be started with East Berlin. It is necessary to strike up attitudes to all these activities.

The CDU/CSU Opposition must construct an opposition to the Moscow Treaty that is firmly based in a rational disagreement with its contents, a disagreement that is firmly anchored in facts.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 27 August 1970)

CDU's five-point criticism of Treaty with Russia

Christian Democrat party executive opinion on the Treaty between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union signed in Moscow on 12 August was formulated in five paragraphs at a meeting of the executive on 26 August.

In the communique on this meeting of the party executive which lasted for more than four hours and dispelled the idea that the party would not give a decisive opinion on the Treaty, the five points were:

1. The right of the German people to self-determination is jeopardised.

2. The drawing up of boundaries must remain dependent upon the signing of a peace treaty with Germany.

3. Specific improvements to inter-German relations, particularly more freedom for people in Germany as a whole to express their ideas, have not yet been introduced and guaranteed.

4. No guarentee has yet been made on the safety of free Berlin and its future.

5. The governement policies which are the basis of this Treaty threaten the foundations of integration and alliances with the West.

Despite these reservations expressed in this communique the CDU/CSU have underlined their readiness, as expounded in Rainer Barzel's memorandum of 10 August to Chancellor Willy Brandt, that following a full report to the Opposition parties these parties are prepared to embark on talks with the government.

The text of the communique states: "Above all with the regard to the question of Berlin the CDU/CSU are striving for a compatible attitude among the Western powers, the Bonn government and the Christian Democrat and Christian Social Union parties.

At a press conference CDU chairman Kurt Georg Kiesinger and parliamentary party chairman Rainer Barzel said that the decision reached and expressed in the communique were unanimous.

Political observers in Bonn are reading more into this communique than an expression of the concern that both politicians feel towards the Moscow Treaty.

They suspect that the firmer line taken by the party chairman against the stand adopted by the parliamentary party leader which has still to be published, but which was hinted at in the parliamentary party committee communique dated 9 August, had won the day.

In fact Rainer Barzel pointed out to journalists that this communique firmly underlined the decision taken by the parliamentary party committee.

The acting chairman of the party and parliamentary party, Gerhard Stoltenberg, admitted that the Opposition's attitude showed a more definite attitude as opposed to the handout of 9 August.

The text of the first part of the communique is: "The CDU party executive hereby underlines the statement made on 9 August which was published as a statement by the parliamentary party committee on 10 August. Grave concern



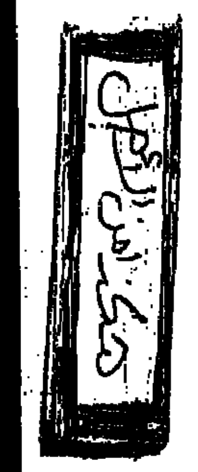
has arisen among members of the party about the Treaty signed in Moscow between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union.

"As yet there has been no answer to the CDU/CSU request for a discussion with the Federal government on matters of East Bloc and German policy as well as the security of Berlin. These parties have not to date received a clarification of the individual points discussed prior to the signing of the Treaty.

"In the light of available information the party executive of the CDU and the CDU/CSU parliamentary party committee are in full agreement with regard to their evaluation of this Treaty."

At this sessions of the CDU party executive in Bonn Richard Stücklen, (CSU) and Freiherr von Guttenberg (CSU) were present.

(DIE WELT, 27 August 1970)



■ VIEWPOINT

Cultural affairs policy is planned with long-term aims and closer ties abroad

Under the direction of Hans-Georg Steltzer the Foreign Office's Culture Affairs Department has examined the government's work in this field throughout the world and outlined new guidelines for the future. Intense advertising has been dispensed with as it often proves to boomerang. Instead, for the *first time* there is *a comprehensive plan aiming for a long-term effect*. This can also act as a guideline for the numerous institutions that are active in the cultural field abroad, such as the Goethe Institute, the Academic Exchange Service and various foundations. Hans-Georg Steltzer explained important points of this plan in a *Frankfurter Rundschau* interview.

Question: Cultural affairs policy has previously centred on representing the Federal Republic abroad and on encouraging the study of the German language. Will it remain so or will there be any new points of special effort?

Steltzer: I would not say that representation alone is the most important, but it is perhaps emphasised too much. We have presented our cultural achievements without dealing very much with the achievements of others — there is no give and take.

That was necessary in a certain sense after the lost war and the crimes of the National Socialists. But today we wish to dispense more with representation in favour of an exchange and international cooperation.

Representation that is too obtrusive has comparatively little success. We believe that cultural affairs policy abroad, which will in future be more pointedly international cultural cooperation, must be based firmly on dialogues and the exchange of experiences.

The German language remains an important instrument of our cultural work abroad. But we shall be governed more by the situation of interests.

It is interesting that in Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, France and Britain interest in the German language is increasing, a sign that a new generation is prepared to start talks with us.

In the East Bloc

Question: Talks with Eastern European states are improving now that the Bonn-Moscow Treaty has been signed. What can the Federal Republic's cultural affairs policy abroad do to improve relations to the East?

Steltzer: We cannot and will not advertise there for the German language But we shall try to satisfy the very great interest for German literature as far as our financial means permit and then promote the exchange of students and academic staff.

There is already a whole series of programmes run by schools, adult education and the trades unions. These group contacts have proved themselves and can be strengthened.

Question: The world has a particular picture of the typical German — a man with a paunch caused by the economic miracle, a belief in authority, Goethe and Hitler, Beethoven and *Gemütlichkeit*. Are there any tangible signs that this picture is changing?

Steltzer: It has changed and cultural affairs policy has certainly contributed to this. This image of the German is certainly not yet satisfactory. Looking at opinion polls, we can see that we still lie quite a long way down the popularity scale with our former enemies.

The picture of the German is certainly still very vulnerable, the budding sympathy still does not have a very firm basis. If for example the National Democrats had had a number of gains in the election we would have fallen back so much that we could no longer make up what was lost.

Brandt's influence

It is equally certain that the election and Chancellor Willy Brandt, as a person respected abroad, have had a sustained influence on the picture of the German.

Our reputation as a nation with a great cultural tradition is still relatively poor. We are thought of as a nation of capable, industrious people, producing excellent industrial products. We are not rated very highly as upholders of culture.

I consider that one of the main aims of our international cooperation must be to improve this picture of Germany that is undeserved in recent years at least.

This should not be done by self-praise but by achievements and by information on these achievements, even on the negative aspects.

Question: Success and lack of success can be seen plainly in economic policy. How can success and lack of success be measured in culture policy?

Steltzer: The first plans for a control of this type have already been made. This is the Iran Study of the Working Group for Cultural Matters. It is not yet perfect but it is extraordinarily informative about the effects of our culture policy abroad.

The interest shown in the German language and the assessment of German culture are registered by systematic public surveys — and the result is rather depressing.

We want to carry out systematic analyses of the effects of culture policy abroad to a greater extent in future. If we want to improve the situation, we must first of all be acquainted with it.

If we carry out analyses of this type in three or four countries every year, we shall have a good picture in a few years time. We want to commission analyses of this type continuously.

Question: The cultural affairs policy you have outlined is more long-term and more calm that what we are used to. Do you believe that we have now reached a stage here in the Federal Republic when we can dispense with the short-term, loud echo to self-confirmation?


Hans-Georg Steltzer (Photo: Bundesbildstelle)

Steltzer: I believe that it is unnatural and without firm foundation to work only for self-confirmation while efforts for closer cultural cooperation have a lasting effect.

Cultural relations have proved to survive political tensions and preserve peoples from a complete break. We must work on a long-term basis.

I also believe that the results of such a plan will not be visible for years but that there will then be a completely different assessment made of our country than if we always tried to please just for the moment.

Rolf Breitenstein

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 August 1970)

Development aid volunteers need more aid at home

MORE THAN A THIRD RETURN TO SERVE OVERSEAS

Development aid volunteers have been a great help in Africa, Asia and Latin America, working under conditions that they are not used to and for a negligible amount of pay.

But when they come home, they need help themselves.

The Development Aid Service (DED) has sent 2,400 volunteers abroad since June 1964. Soon the figure will be up to one thousand a year.

The number of volunteers returning home will then increase from 1,500 to 2,000. Even now there are rehabilitation difficulties.

The development aid worker is often a small cog in the production machine before going abroad for DED. He then has to carry out tasks that usually exceed his standard of education.

Imagination, a talent for organisation and leadership are then demanded of him, his work is autonomous and he bears the responsibility.

Car workers who used to work on the construction line must now lead apprentice workshops.

On top of this comes the superior status that development aid volunteers gain because of their teaching functions in a village of their host country.

Return often brings disillusion. At the start of his flight back a high official says goodbye with high-sounding words. But now there is no one to receive him with open arms.

Industry is not prepared to offer him the better paid and more interesting position he expects after proving himself abroad.

Heads of personnel only look at the two year gap of experience caused by the industrial development in the Federal Republic.

Special files from applicants returning from development aid work in the central applicants office of the Federal Labour Institute had so little success that they were discontinued. These applications are now mixed with the rest once again.

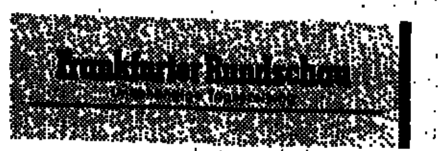
Development aid workers must begin again in this country where they left off. Former colleagues have long been on a higher rate of pay.

In the past development aid workers were not in the least prepared for the situation they would find on their return. The move caused them greater difficulties than adapting to the situation abroad.

Disappointment often ran high. Harsh words were spoken against DED.

But DED has learnt its lesson. Together with the central labour agency (ZAV) it tries to prepare development aid workers for their return in the preparatory courses before they leave for overseas.

High hopes are subdued. Former volunteers tell of their difficulties to adapt. It is pointed out that the advantages, the superior experience, the widened horizons and the additional language are only of a long-term benefit.



The Development Volunteer Act has improved the legal situation of development aid workers. They are now classified by the social security service as if they were working in this country.

Service abroad also frees them from conscription. DED said that this caused a rapid jump in applications, adding that it no longer mentions this advantage in its advertising.

Six months before returning, development workers are sent information compiled by DED and ZAV. This package contains leaflets and also an application form that must be returned to the ZAV. The labour agency must start its work early.

Today those returning from overseas are more realistic. The information and efforts of the DED and ZAV have been successful. Expectations are no longer too high and disappointment therefore rarer.

But only the minority are satisfied with their situation. Dr Martin of the ZAV said that seventy per cent would like to have a post abroad again, though this time as well-paid experts.

Motives seem to have changed. Dr Martin estimates that sixty to seventy per cent of the volunteers decide to go to DED in the first place because of their socially critical attitude. They want to carry out their part of the responsibility of industrial nations towards the Third World.

Those who wish to return abroad are more concerned with the freer life and the chances of better earnings.

Those whose wish cannot be fulfilled and those who want to remain here anyway take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Work Promotion Law, ZAV says.

They apply for re-training or further training, despite the temporary financial sacrifice. They are also not so fixed to one locality as their former colleagues.

A little more than a third manage to return abroad, DED says. Relations with the export industries are now very good, the organisation proudly states.

It is a good sign that DED is so concerned with the later fate of its charges. But what does make a person think is that people who are to work abroad for the export industries are being trained with public funds, even though as a by-product.

Jürgen Steltzer

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 22 August 1970)

■ INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION

Re-organisation of Federal states no easy matter

If the recent suggestions by the Prime Ministers of some of the Federal states and the bold plans of the Interior Minister are followed, the patchwork map of the Federal Republic would one day look different and perhaps more sensible than it does today.

Reorganisation is the magic word. Basic Law demands it. If it did come about, twenty years after the establishment of Basic Law, it would mean the end of neo-German particularism.

The Federal Republic now has ten state premiers, ten state parliaments and its complicated tenfold cabinet system — excluding Berlin for the present.

If proposals are adopted, this costly super-federalism would enter the eighties in a different guise.

It will take this long — if Basic Law Article 29 on reorganisation is correctly applied — for the creation of four, five or even six Federal states that would be of equal size, if possible, equal strength,

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

equal financial power and viable without the talk of horizontal and vertical financial equalisation.

Would that be an ideal solution? The answer depends on what is understood by federalism or the cooperation between limitedly autonomous members of a modern federalised state.

If this principle was nothing other than a decentralised united state with some autonomous rights for the various regions, the five-state proposal of Prime Minister Heinz Kühn in Düsseldorf and Prime Minister Helmut Kohl in Mainz would be correct.

To achieve the ideal structure for the Federal Republic, Article 29 does not only prescribe Federal states that are balanced as much as possible as regards size and viability. It also demands that account should be made for historical growth. Does this mean that Bavaria will be restored to what it once was?

The task to be imposed on the Reorganisation Committee this autumn by Home Affairs Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher is difficult.

The Rhineland Palatinate, at one time belonging to Bavaria, will not let itself be re-absorbed by the Federal state, as was recently demanded in Munich.

There would never be a majority for this in a plebiscite. As far as can be seen, a majority of the population will have the final say on any law reorganising the Federal Republic.

This process is intricate. When the Bill is submitted the legislature will first have to consider the results of plebiscites and referendums that have already been carried out in the various regions.

But it may also follow higher findings and include in the reorganisation areas where inhabitants have not yet decided what to do. The Bundestag and Bundesrat would then have to pass the law with a simple majority.

But inhabitants of the areas thus affected will be entitled to reject the re-organisation in a plebiscite as long as they have not been consulted previously. And who can doubt that the proud Hanseatic populations of Hamburg and Bremen would not fight their incorporation into the surrounding Federal states of Lower Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein?

But if Bremen and Hamburg and possibly Berlin wanted to continue writing the history of the Federal Republic with three votes each in the Bundesrat compared with only five allowed each of the giant Federal states of North Rhine-Westphalia, Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg, the Saar and Rhineland-Palatinate would hardly want to be treated any differently.

Party politics in the Bundesrat must also be considered. If Christian Democrat-controlled states are to disappear or merge — the Saar and Rhineland Palatinate with the Social Democrat-controlled Hesse for instance — the SPD city states in the North West, Bremen and Hamburg, could hardly continue on their own.

This must be taken into account in the second stage of proceedings. If the Reorganisation Bill is rejected by a plebiscite in any region affected the legislature must discuss plans once again and probably change them.

The redrafted proposals will then be subject to a plebiscite by the whole of the population which can then overrule the particularists. But it will only do this if the overall solution is convincing and all parties support it.

To be convincing, the solution must bring together everything that belongs together. Difficult problems must be faced here.

Do the territories along the Rhine belong together, even though they are divided by the Eifel and Hunsrück and split between two Federal states?

Plebiscites held in the fifties in the local government districts of Koblenz and Trier were successful. Would the same be the case today?

A sensible reorganisation should not allow industrial and residential conurbations to be divided between Federal states as is now the case with the area around Mainz and Frankfurt, Mannheim and Ludwigshafen, Karlsruhe and Ettlingen, Ulm and Neu-Ulm.

A special solution must be found for the Hanseatic ports of Hamburg and Bremen. Autonomy could be developed not within a federalised state but in a new North West state

Thought should be given to setting up a North West state as a federation of the four present Federal states — the two large though poor areas of Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony and the two small, though rich city states.

There remains finally the question of why there should be reorganisation at all. If the system worked fairly well during the last twenty years the experience gained might mean that it would work even better in the future.

Reorganisation was always postponed with the excuse of waiting for German reunification since a reunified Germany would have to be organised differently to a separate West German state.

This argument is no longer valid today. Reorganisation is once again topical.

Dieter von König

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 21 August 1970)

Number of states to be halved?

Population in millions	
North Rhine-Westphalia	17.1
North West State	12.3
Bavaria	10.6
Middle Rhine-Hesse	10.2
Baden Württemberg	8.9
Berlin (West)	2.1

Of the various proposals for regional reform the most striking is a plan to halve the number of Federal states from ten to five. It would involve amalgamation of Schleswig-Holstein, Lower Saxony and the city-states of Hamburg and Bremen to form one north-western state, a merger of Hesse, the Rhineland-Palatinate and the Saar to form a Middle Rhine-Hesse state and retention of the existing states of North Rhine-Westphalia, Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg.

In respect of population at least the five new states would be more evenly matched than at present, with North Rhine-Westphalia, the largest existing state, having more inhabitants than the six smallest states together.

Central government must give the lead to reform

The most ludicrous contribution to discussions on reorganising the Federal states came indisputably from Bavarian Prime Minister Alfons Goppel when he discretely pointed out the historical claims Bavaria has to the Palatinate.

Reorganising the Federal states has once again become a favourite subject of conversation. This certainly does not imply the restoration of the historical states. Reorganisation is not concerned with revising history. It is meant to be a step into the future.

Meanwhile even the task of reorganisation has almost assumed historical character. Since the Federal Republic was founded Article 29 of Basic Law has read: "The Federal territory shall be reorganised by a Federal law, with due regard to regional ties, historical and cultural connections, economic expediency and social structure. Such reorganisation should create Federal states which by their size and capacity are able effectively to fulfil the functions incumbent upon them."

This Article reflects the discontent felt with the structure imposed by the occupying powers.

The legislature itself must bear a lot of the blame that Article 29 has not yet been put into practice. The procedure envisaged is so intricate that one expert was heard to sigh, "For the time being the whole complicated process seems to be of a purely academic nature."

To come to a fair judgement of present proposals we must recapitulate what ideas moved those people who drafted Basic Law.

In spite of the rather misleading choice of words, it is first of all supposed to be a reorganisation of the Federal Republic and not of the individual states. The procedure is meant to conform more to the interests of the Federal Republic than to those of the Federal states.

The federal structure of this republic is not intended to be an instrument with which the provinces can achieve their interests, which tend to be provincial from time to time.

The Bundesrat does not act primarily as an organ where the policy of the Federal states can be achieved at the cost of government policy.

The second chamber participates far more as a Federal organ in Federal policy and serves as an additional instrument of the democratic division of powers.

The procedure envisaged for reorganising the Federal Republic conforms to these principles. The central government has the initiative in its own hands. The Bundesrat only has the right to veto the Reorganisation Bill that is to be decided by the Bundestag. But if the necessary majority is gained in the Bundestag this objection can be overruled.

With these facts in mind, the tired excuse used by politicians in Bonn that the stubbornness of the Federal states has all along prevented the execution of Article 29 loses its power of conviction.

Looking at the political landscape, the observer can localise one zone that is particularly active in the question of reorganisation. This zone stretches along the Rhine from Lake Constance to Düsseldorf.

Prime Ministers and Provincial Assemblies in the Federal states of Baden-Württemberg, Rhineland-Palatinate, the Saar, Hesse and North Rhine-Westphalia are busily calculating financial power, transport routes and, not least, the proportion of votes. Prime Minister Heinz Kühn has also brought Lower Saxony into the discussion.

It is correct to say that the central government must give the lead in this matter. But it is equally plain that nothing can be done without the Federal states.

As long as the provincial princes view reorganisation with one eye on their office and voting proportions in the elections and in the Bundesrat, the period of ten years that they claim the reorganisation will take seems to be wishful thinking. At present every proposal seems to be made only to be contradicted.

The prerogatives that the central government enjoys under Basic Law must therefore be remembered. It is from the Federal government that we can expect the earliest moves for reducing economic, cultural and historical aspects to a common denominator when reducing the number of Federal states.

As Home Affairs Minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher has taken note of the possibilities offered him and already set up a commission that is to report back to him by the end of next year. The Federal states must not be excluded but it is now the central government's move.

Robert Leicht

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 20 August 1970)

■ DRAMA

Radio plays – the subject of controversy

DEVELOPMENT ESSENTIAL, STAGNATION WOULD BE FATAL

Producers and writers of radio plays in this country often cast an envious glance towards Britain where Martin Esslin, the world famous literary theorist and head of the BBC drama department, can announce with pride, "Since April we have been broadcasting a radio play seven afternoons a week."

This envy is not only due to the amount of time allotted to drama. Esslin is also envied for the housewives and night-shift workers among his afternoon audience, for listening figures of over a million for a Harold Pinter Festival and for the angry letters he receives when plays have to make way for football commentaries or Wimbledon.

Compared with the radio play scene in this country, Great Britain appears to be a paradise. In the Federal Republic the radio play is one large battlefield and fighting is on several fronts.

The radio play itself is being discussed. This is plainly shown by the last award of the War Blind Radio Play Prize.

This, the nineteenth award of the Prize, went to Wolf Wondratschek, previously known only through one prose volume and a number of stories.

His dramatic work was entitled *Paul or the Destruction of a Listening Example.* Paul, a truck driver, the man on the street, is portrayed through the medium of radio. There is a collage of noise, words and phrases, sounds and sounds of sounds.

Wondratschek was the second exponent of the "new" radio play who had received the prize of the war blind. Voices were immediately raised demanding that the pendulum must swing in the other direction.

The other direction consists of the works of writers ranging from Günter Eich to Siegfried Lenz and Heinrich Böll who occasionally made the radio play into acoustic narratives with audibly grating problematics. The idea was to get away from the old listening style – words are not the only thing to be heard.

Among the new style of radio play there are simple examples like Paul Pörtner's *Stock Exchange Game* that simply though authentically records, in edited form, the sounds of the stock exchange and linguistically precise, analytical works like Franz Mon's *As the Grass Grows.*

The New Radio Play is flourishing and a book of the same name has been published by Suhrkamp. Understandably a gramophone record is also included in the price.

There are already a number of fascinating mixtures between the traditional literary radio play and the new variety.

Helmut Heissenbüttel, the genre's leading theoretician, recently introduced his first practical work on Bavarian Radio. This was entitled *Two or Three Portraits.*

Even advertising experts are becoming interested in the possibilities offered by the New Radio Play. They hope that radio advertising, the most barren of all advertising forms, will lose the character of old-fashioned radio.

The newly born child does have its enemies. Convinced Marxists consider it to be an idyll that is incapable of communicating political opinions.

Conservatives think of it as a fashionable toy, the self-destruction of the radio play and an insult to those who have worked themselves tired, those who are careworn and irritable.

There have even been radio plays parodying the New Radio Play. These range from the humorous ironic plays broadcast by Westdeutscher Rundfunk to the coarsely reviling plays of Hessischer Rundfunk.

Martin Esslin can still be glad of one thing – the new sound is only just being invented in Britain.

Who knows whether the self-destruction of the radio play consists in exploring the acoustic possibilities of the medium or in dissecting, analysing and dismembering language and noise?

Programme planners at the various radio stations have long been discussing the chances the radio play has of survival, even without this attempted suicide.

Stations like Radio Luxemburg specialising in light entertainment have long been knocking on the door of the publically owned stations.

They value public taste, radio stories, opinion polls and programmes to attract advertising. This is only rarely ignored in favour of more cultural and educational programmes.

Work has begun in the Saar. The main station no longer broadcasts cultural programmes. Since 1 May there have been no radio plays in the first programme of Saarländischer Rundfunk.

Europawelle Saar does not even give its listeners popular comedies or crime plays.

Many stations are still considering what to aim for in light entertainment, though without stopping serious programmes. This is particularly true of Süddeutscher, Bayerischer and Norddeutscher Rundfunk as well as Südwestfunk.

Measures are not always as extreme as in the Saar but listening figures are continually consulted. Broadcasting a radio play for a handful of people, operating one of the mass media for a tiny minority is an increasingly more dangerous luxury.

These considerations are not made any the easier by the New Radio Play. The strange sounds broadcast in its name seem to drive more and more listeners to the television screen.

The fact that listeners with normal radios (only ten per cent can receive stereo) do not even have the chance of understanding the finesses of the new style play makes the situation as precarious as do extreme examples of the genre.

Peter Handke recently shone in the Third Programme of Westdeutscher Rundfunk with a fifteen-minute radio play, three-quarters of which consisted of silence and the other quarter of indefinable noises.

It is not known for sure if young people, usually the staunchest supporters of modern art, listen to the New Radio Play. They must attract some listeners; future promise is not enough for programme compilers.

The gap between the most progressive of the arts and the public has always been wide. Radio is now widening this gap even further.

Magazine programmes and forced topicality have helped radio rid itself of the criticism that it was a dying medium. Radio will not want to lose its newly-won self-assurance, its new listeners and the favourable attitude of advertisers. Original broadcasts during intervals of transmission will hardly be tolerated.

On the other hand, experimentation is necessary to the existence of the radio play, the only art form specific to this medium. Stagnation would be fatal.

Radio stations are divided on the question. Those responsible for the radio plays disagree on form and content and programme compilers differ on questions of function and effectiveness.

The first public opinion polls are joining in the discussion. The one commissioned by the Westdeutscher Rundfunk did not turn out as badly for the radio play as many sceptics had expected.

One thing is certain. Art which attracts no consumers is more in dispute in the mass media than anywhere else.

Another thing that should be certain is that findings by the opinion polls and the conclusions drawn from them by advertisers for programme compilers can only have informational value.

Michael Molin

(Handelsblatt, 12 August 1970)

Konrad Eckhof – father of the German theatre

In 1735 the Swedish Postmaster in Hamburg engaged a fifteen-year-old boy as a clerk for his office. The boy's name was Konrad Ekhof or Eckhof, his father was a soldier in the city's army.

When the Postmaster's wife insisted that Eckhof should ride as attendant on their coach as they went to church on a Sunday, he replied that he had been engaged as a clerk and not a servant.

So began the career of a man who founded the German theatre in the eighteenth century and became the preceptor of a widely despised class.

After Eckhof's death Goethe wrote a poetic obituary notice saying, "Hear ye, he created art for ye and ennobled your class, an oracle of your drama and an example of your customs."

Eckhof was born in Hamburg 250 years ago on 12 August 1720. While still young, he thirsted for education and was interested in everything connected with the theatre.

He was allowed to broaden his knowledge of literature browsing in the library of his employer in Schwerin.

In 1739 the theatre director Johann Friedrich Schönemann came with his travelling ensemble to Schwerin, the chief town of Mecklenburg.

Konrad Eckhof went along to the theatre accompanied by Sophie Charlotte Schröder, a young lady who lived apart from her husband and earned her living through embroidery.

Eckhof had none of the outward features that characterise a highly gifted actor. He had a squat build and seemed more gnarled and robust than elegant.

But he had a wonderful natural talent for acting, a very powerful and beautiful voice and eyes whose gaze his pupil August Wilhelm Iffland was later to describe as enamel that continued to shine.

Acting at that time meant material hardship and a permanently nomadic life. Eckhof had the good fortune that his director, Schönemann, won him the favour of Duke Christian Ludwig II of Mecklenburg-Schwerin who dearly wanted to create his own permanent court theatre.

From 1751 to 1756 Schönemann's company played at the ducal theatre in Rostock. The power that French drama and old German farces wielded on the stage had not yet been broken.

But to a person like Eckhof fostering a realistic style of drama and the beginnings of German drama seemed to be his life's work. During his years in Schwerin and Rostock he also set up a drama academy not only to give his fellow actors further training but also to raise their professional standing.

When the Duke of Mecklenburg died in 1756 Schönemann's company was forced to become nomadic once again. The second great station in Eckhof's life was his hometown of Hamburg.

It was here in 1756 that Schönnemann produced the first German bourgeois tragedy by Lessing, *Miss Sara Sampson*. Eckhof played one of the star roles.

In Lessing Eckhof found the dramatist to give him great roles and in Eckhof Lessing saw the highly gifted actor needed to interpret his creations.

The actor Konrad Ackermann formed a new company in Hamburg from the best actors in the old company. These included Eckhof, Sophie Friederike Hensel, Charlotte Schröder, who had married Ackermann, and his young stepson Friedrich Ludwig Schröder.

Three Hamburg businessmen, among them Abel Seyler who had a liaison with Madame Hensel, founded the first German national theatre.

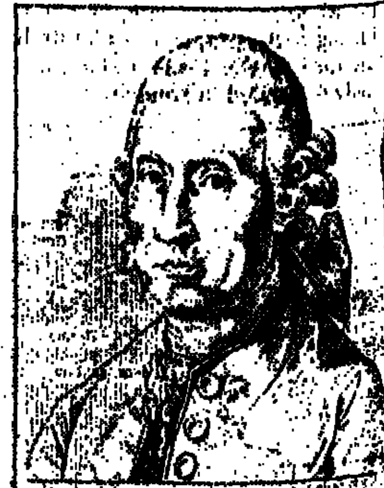
It was not a financial success. It had set out to present to its audiences only the best works. In 1767 Lessing's *Minna von Barnhelm* came to Hamburg after its premiere in Leipzig. Eckhof played Tellheim and Madame Hensel Minna.

Audiences were enthusiastic. But in the long run they preferred lighter works.

Ackermann's company then split up as a result of personal rivalries. Eckhof went his own way and, with Abel Seyler as principal, found the patronage of Duchess Amalie of Saxe-Weimar, a gifted woman with real musical talent.

Here at the court of the mother of Carl August, Goethe's patron, Eckhof performed under the eye of Wieland and Musäus.

In 1775 he was called to the court of the cultured Duke Ernst II of Saxe-Gotha who wanted to set up a permanent theatre with resident actors.



Eckhof was entrusted with the artistic supervision under the direction of Chamberlain von Lenthe. He received the yearly salary of 600 thalers, a truly princely sum for him.

It was in Gotha that he died on 16 June 1778. The cause of death was attributed to consumption and dropsy, the consequence of almost forty years nomadic existence.

But his name had been inextricably linked with the history of German drama ever since the time he spent in Hamburg and ever since Lessing's *Hamburgische Dramaturgie* that could not have been written if it had not been for Eckhof's acting.

On his deathbed he was still occupied with a plan to set up an old age and widow's pension fund for German actors so that they need no longer be beggars and vagabonds.

(DIE WELT, 8 August 1970)

■ ENTERTAINMENT

Forthcoming attractions in the new season

As another theatre season begins we cannot expect anything particularly outstanding from either the new plays or the new authors that are waiting to entertain us.

When the curtain rises on Federal Republic stages the theatregoing public can look forward to many tried and tested plays. There will be premieres of fifty newly produced German or European plays and more than twenty will be performed for the first time ever. There will be three ballets receiving their first premiere and fifteen new operas and musicals.

Television has treated the Rosa Luxemburg theme in a hotly disputed production and now two stage productions will deal with her life and death.

Firstly *Der nationale Feiertag* (National Holiday) with libretto by Claus H. Henneberg and score by Thomas Kesseler, which will be staged at the Deutsche Oper, Berlin. Secondly Armand Gatte's play *Wer bist du Rosa?* (Who are you Rosa?) which will be performed in Kassel.

Die Vogelscheuchen (The scarecrows), a ballet based on Günter Grass' novel *Hundejahre* (Dog Years) with score by Aribert Reimann will also be performed for the first time ever in Berlin.

The two other ballet first nights are Giselher Klebe's *Villon Balladen* in Wiesbaden and *Sinfonia* by Luciona Berio at the Deutsche Oper am Rhein.

Darmstadt is offering a new production of the opera *Die Krönung der Popäa* (Popaea's Coronation) by Harnoncourt and Monteverdi. The season will open in Karlsruhe on 26 September with the premiere of the opera *Der Dybuk*, by Austrian composer Karl Heinz Füssel.

At the Munich Staatsoper Günther Rennert's pledge to give modern composers an airing does not seem to be fulfilled with only one new production, Paul Dessau's *Lanzelot*.

The plays on offer have a wide range of themes: the generation gap in *Die unmöglichen Jahre* (The impossible years) by Bob Fischer and Arthur Marxn, which deals with the tension that builds up between a sex-mad teenager and his parents and will be performed in Wiesbaden; the macabre parlour games of holidaymakers in Hermann Mör's *Das Gesellschaftsspiel* in Frankfurt; work as a joyous and sensuous pursuit as expressed by East Berliner Heiner Müller, whose *Herakles V* will be performed in Hamburg.

Political themes will be dealt with at the Barlog Bühnen in Berlin including *Pinkville* an anti-war play by George Tabori (who wrote "Cannibals") and *Mörderische Engel* (Murderous angels) by Conor Cruise O'Brien, a play dealing with the plane crash in the Congo in which UNO Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld was fatally injured.

In Stuttgart there will be a production of Martin Walser's *Kinderspiel* (Child's Play) in which brothers and sisters turn on their father.

Peter Palitzsch has turned his attention to Elie Wiesel's *Salmen* about Jews in Russia and John Hopkins' *Find your way* which deals with a married man, who has several affairs with women then sets up home with a young man.

Essen is putting on the long-awaited Peter Weiss play *Die Versicherung* (The insurance) which will be directed by Hans Neufels.

A group of people in prison awaiting trial wrote *Was nun?* which will be performed in Dortmund. It describes how a gang of criminals leads a boy off the straight and narrow.

Düsseldorf Schauspielhaus is presenting two Dürrenmatt premieres and one by Wolfgang Hildesheimer as well as three German premieres.

Rainer Werner Fassbinder's revamping of the Lope de Vega play *Das brennende Dorf* (Village on fire) will be first-nighted in Bremen. Bremen will also stage the first German production of Richard Hill's musical based on Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales.*

Under Fassbinder's direction Stuttgart will be presenting *Der Engländer* (The Englishman) a play by Werner Kliess, based on the novella by Siegfried Lenz.

The re-thought version of Rolf Hochhuth's *Guerillas* at the Freie Volksbühne in Berlin will be worth waiting for after the Stuttgart premiere in the last theatre season.

Brunswick offers theatregoers *Wenn es Suppe gibt verwundern sich alle anderen Onkels* (Other uncles show signs of surprise when there is soup) by 33 year-old Hubertus Wiedfeld and 35 year-old Dieter Kühn's monologue play *Schrankspiel.*

Peter Hacks will be presenting *Polly* in Brunswick and a new version of Shakespeare's *Henry IV* (both parts) at the Schillertheater in Berlin.

(Hannoversche Presse, 8 August 1970)



Tilla Durieux, doyenne of the theatre

Tilla Durieux' life story sounds like a fairy-tale but behind it all there is a lot of hard work, strain, fighting spirit, talent and pain as well as fulfilment and a little happiness.

When Ottilie Godeffroy, daughter of a Viennese professor, began her acting career she was eighteen and the twentieth century had not even started!

She took the stage-name Tilla Durieux and was celebrating her first success with Reinhardt twelve years before the First World War began.

Tilla Durieux helped bring Oscar Wilde's *Salome* to the stage in the form of a theatrical poem, but originally without music. She was the first German Eliza Doolittle.

She was to be seen on stage alongside Paul Wegner as his royal foster-sister, an acting team with an air of realism, an air of fantasy and perfect artistic harmony.

Kerr made her the triumphant central figure in a scandal in 1911 when he accused von Jagow, the Chief of Police, of making indecent suggestions to Tilla Durieux.

In the golden years of Berlin, during the twenties, Tilla Durieux was always a figure at the centre of everything. She was painted by Renoir, Liebermann, Kokoschka, Slevogt, Orlik, Beckmann and many others. Ernst Barlach produced several excellent bronze busts of her.

She subsidised Piscator's theatrical experiments with about half a million Marks from her own pocket.

Tilla Durieux escaped, when Hitler's raving elevated him to Chancellor and Germany went mad, by fleeing to Yugoslavia.

On her return to Germany in 1952 she never flinched from playing all the old roles in her eternally youthful way. She now seems to be a permanent part of the theatre in this country, the doyenne of the Thespian art.

It is by no means Tilla Durieux' fault that she cannot celebrate her ninetieth birthday as she did her eighty-fifth, with yet another premiere – her hunger for life and for new roles seems insatiable, but circumstances beyond her control prevent her entering her tenth decade in the way she would wish.

What can one wish a great actress on reaching such a great stage of her life as her ninetieth birthday? A long life she has had. Deserved luck she has also had, since age has brought her wisdom and so many people love and honour her.

She will never be lonely since this country's theatre as a whole acclaims her. We all wish her very well!

Friedrich Luft

(DIE WELT, 18 August 1970)
(Photo: Keystone)

Zimmerman gave his music dynamic concepts of time

One of the favourite stories in the world of music is about composers who write their own requiem. Such is the macabre case of the composer Bernd Alois Zimmermann.

Zimmermann was born in Cologne in 1918. He was found dead on the weekend of 8-9 August. His last completed work, which was first performed last year was entitled *Requiem* – and as a kind of afterthought *für einen jungen Dichter* (for a young poet).

Another remarkable fact is that Zimmermann's *Requiem* is based on the works of young poets who took their own lives, Vladimir Mayakovsky, Sergei Yessenin and Konrad Bayer.

The main theme of his last work is "there is nothing to await except death".

Zimmermann's great contribution to music lay less in his genius for overcoming outdated traditions than in his skill for utilising the efforts of others to this end – which is not meant to detract from him as a composer.

A typical example of this is his opera, *Soldaten*, based on the play by Jakob Michael Reinhold Lenz. This was a work in which tonal levels were heaped one upon the other to form one dynamic whole, which he himself called "pluralistic sound".




(Photo: dpa)

This dynamism of his compositions is often mistaken as a one-dimensional collage, even in his ballet, *Musique pour les soupers du roi Ubu* (Dinner-time music for – Jarry's – King Ubu).

In reality there is plenty of evidence in Zimmermann's later works that he has applied a technique of artistic collage and quotation in an attempt to free music from its restricting aura and to give music a dynamic concept of time, which would affect both the creation of the music and its possible effects.

This coordinating system of "sooner and later" was adapted by Zimmermann into a music form of dialectic dynamics. This meant a final break with the techniques of composing of the Classical and Romantic schools.

These musical styles depended on the self-sufficiency of formal musical composition, a Utopia which Zimmermann dismissed.

Bernd Alois Zimmermann described himself pointedly as "the oldest of the younger generation of composers".

His early period was dominated mainly by Bela Bartók, Igor Stravinsky and Arnold Schoenberg. His intermediate phase began in the early fifties, then he entered his late period in 1958-60 with *Soldaten* and the later works, such as *Présence*, for violin, cello and piano and *Intercommunicazione* for cello and piano as well as the new version of *Dialoge* for two pianos.

This was known as his "pluralistic" phase. Its dialectic concept of time owed much to the narrative techniques of James Joyce and Marcel Proust. It aimed at producing an extension of consciousness stripped of chronological sequence.

In his later works Bernd Alois Zimmermann gave repeated proof of the material nature of his work and this modern composer liberated his music of irrational, dedicated narrowness. He raised it to a level where it had at least a potential social relevance.

To this day the effect of Zimmermann's music on the general public is depressing. It is possible that this is a factor that made the composer himself despair.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 13 August 1970)



EDUCATION

Teaching English to the very young in Brunswick

VOLKSWAGEN FOUNDATIQN HAS PROVIDED 185,000 MARKS

A research project on teaching elementary school children English is now to be carried out by the Brunswick department of the Lower Saxony Teachers Training College thanks to a donation of 185,000 Marks from the Volkswagen Foundation in Hanover.

A research team headed by Professor Doyé of Brunswick and Professor Lüttge of Hildesheim will examine the possibilities, results and effects of beginning English classes at an earlier age.



This investigation is one of many being made throughout the world. Parallel projects are the FLES Programme in the United States and the Nuffield Programme in Great Britain.

These two projects examine results gained from teaching French to eight to ten-year-olds.

Doubts have repeatedly been raised as to whether the usual point to start language teaching in most European countries (the fifth class) is the best.

Educational, psychological and physiological deliberations have led to the theory that learning successes would be higher if children started to learn a language earlier.

Because of this a series of smaller and more comprehensive experiments have been carried out in reducing the age at which children start to learn a foreign language.

But only one of these experiments was undertaken scientifically with the aim of examining the results. One disadvantage was that this was confined to elementary school and was unable to supply information on the longer-term results of a earlier begin to English teaching.

There are plans for English teaching to begin in the third class this coming winter term for all pupils in one suburb in each of the towns of Brunswick, Wolfsburg and Salzgitter.

This has the advantage that long-term planning and control is possible as most of the children in the elementary schools selected will go on to secondary school after the fourth year.

They will form whole classes there and their education in the two test years – the third and fourth classes – can be continued in the fifth.

Some thousand third-year children in thirty classes will be taught English from the coming autumn.

Daily English classes will average fifteen to twenty minutes. The teaching will be constantly supervised. Its results will be examined in tests taken by the pupils at regular intervals and set be the research team.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 20 August 1970)

22,000 foreign students in BDR

In the winter term of the 1969-70 academic year there were 22,000 foreign students at universities in this country This figure represents 6.8 per cent of all students.

The recently published annual report of the Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for 1969 also states that there has not been any precise survey of the success and length of stay of foreign students at the 38 universities in the Federal Republic.

Two thousand academic staff are registered at the DAAD agency responsible for supplying foreign countries with teachers. Half of these are in the United States and Canada. Most are scientists.

The number of scientists sent abroad rose from 104 in 1969 to 120 last year. Ninety per cent of them are now working in developing countries.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 6 August 1970)

65,000 new university students expected this year

This coming winter term 65,000 new students are expected to enrol at universities in this country, thus swelling the total student population to approximately 400,000.

This figure was the one arrived at by the planning committee for university building representing both the central government and the Federal states.

The committee had asked school-leavers what subjects they wanted to study and at which university. Similar surveys will help to plan university investment in future.

97,905 people qualified for further study and at that time in high schools, the armed forces or the replacement service were interviewed earlier on this summer. This figure represents about one fifth of all people concerned.

Ninety-one per cent wanted to go on to study. 53,620 stated that they wished to start this winter.

While 58.5 per cent of the would-be students would be prepared to go to another university than the one they preferred if necessary, only 12.5 per cent would choose another subject.

Munich, Frankfurt, Cologne, Bonn and Münster are the most popular choices. As far as subjects are concerned, the most popular are education for primary and special schools, medicine, dentistry, mathematics, physics, English, law and German.

(Hannoversche Presse, 13 August 1970)

Facts of life on TV

This country's second television channel, ZDF, is to start a twelve-episode series on 20 September designed to tell children the facts of life. This follows a series entitled *Information on Sex Education* meant for parents and teachers.

The ZDF says that the ten minute episodes will be broadcast every Sunday afternoon at 1.30 in colour.

The series, entitled *The Wonder of Life*, has already been broadcast with great success in Canada and to a certain extent in Britain and the United States.

Facts are presented simply and plainly. The first six episodes are meant for five to eight-year-olds while the final six episodes are aimed at seven to eleven-year-olds.

The series has already been awarded several prizes and a gold medal.

(Handelsblatt, 18 August 1970)

Candied statement from Welfare Ministry

The wrath of many school beginners may be directed against Lower Saxony's Social Affairs Ministry if parents follow a recent recommendation issued by it.

The Ministry asked there should be as few sweets as possible in the candy bag children in this country traditionally receive when starting school.

This was for reasons of health, it said. Only seven per cent of school beginners have healthy teeth.

When parents spend their usual five million Marks on the candy bags and their contents they should remember their children's teeth and put fruit, books, pencils or toys in the bags instead of candy and chocolate.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 10 August 1970)

The study of computer science

The science of computers is a new subject that can now be studied at four technical universities – those in Berlin, Darmstadt, Karlsruhe and Munich – and two universities, Erlangen and Bonn.

This subject, introduced into the universities' prospectus from the summer term of this year, places most emphasis on theoretical scientific instruction.

The theory of automatics, structure analysis of computer language, mathematical logic and algebra stand in the forefront.

The science of computers differs from most other technical disciplines as it deals more with abstract terms than with technical details or physical laws.

This type of mathematical training is unavoidable for computer scientists if they are to have any chance of keeping up with the explosive growth and rapid process of change in their subject.

The mere listing of computer languages and systems used at present cannot therefore serve as a basis for computer and information science.

In second place come more practically orientated subjects like using programmes and solving complicated problems with the help of numerical and mathematical approximation methods.

The rest of the course is devoted to technology and the use to which computers may be put.

Of course there are still differences between computers science teaching at the various universities. The courses offered come from the most diverse departments and only provisional coordination has been possible up to now.

Five more universities will offer computer and information science from this winter term – Hamburg, Kiel, Cologne, Saarbrücken and Stuttgart.

In Munich the Bavarian Provincial Assembly has also decided to introduce computer science as a voluntary subject in secondary schools.

(DIE WELT, 10 August 1970)

SCIENCE

Biometricians seek to establish fixed medical standards and norms

What is normal and what is abnormal? Almost every day people are forced to judge developments, events or reactions by norms set by the State, the Church or other institutions.

Drivers are forced to observe the speed limit in towns or the level of alcohol in their bloodstream. Other people have to conform to property prices and agents' fees.

Biologists and scientists have a more difficult time of it, especially when they have furnished the State with the information necessary for fixing these norms.

Is a pulse rate of one hundred beats a minute normal? This question is relatively easy to answer when considering the height above sea-level of the place where the measurement is taken, the age of the person being examined, previous physical strain and other factors.

Discussions at the seventh International Biometrics Conference held in Hanover showed, however, that finding norms is considerably more difficult in more complicated laboratory work.

They would contain a fundamental mistake if subconscious, biological aims such as high life expectancy were to creep into calculations.

Biometrics is concerned with fixing special medical norms. The basis for these norms is the examination of as large a number of healthy people as possible. Doctors will then be in a position to judge whether the rest of us are sick or healthy.

But forming this large group of healthy people often presents extraordinary difficulties.

Why is it so important to fix norms? Professor Berthold Schneider of Hanover said that the only way that biology, medicine, economics and social science could become exact sciences was with the aid of reliable norms and inductive methods enabling theories to be drawn from observation.

Perhaps exacter sciences would have been a better term. Even the so-called exact sciences like physics and chemistry are assuming an increasingly more statistical character, at least in the atomic and molecular fields where every measurement changes the object being measured, and showing the haziness typical of biological objects.

Even statistical facts have a regular character for all their inherent variability.

Biometricians today work with decision, information and game theory, with variance analysis and computer technology in a similar manner to their colleagues in the exact disciplines.

This is indeed necessary as the decisions that must be made today on the basis of biometric deliberations are often of extremely far-reaching importance and subject to great risks.

These risks cannot and should not be eliminated. Professor Schneider said that they were a necessary consequence of variability, an essential characteristic of all living matter and inanimate nature in the atomic and molecular field.

What are these risks? The conference cited a number of examples. How for example does the population of a country react to a law which makes it more difficult to have an abortion, a practice previously widely tolerated?

A law to this effect was passed in Rumania in November 1966 after the number of abortions according to official statistics outnumbered the number of births by more than four to one.

Six months later the number of births began to increase sharply and by the following September had risen from the previous figure of fourteen births for every 1,000 inhabitants to forty in a thousand.

Within two years the birth rate sank again to 24 births per thousand inhabitants even though the law was not changed.

Is this result only chance, one that would not recur or one that is only true for this particular country? What factors that could be significant for the population of other countries are included in these biological statistics?

Mindel C. Sheps and Jane A. Menken from the department of biostatistics at the University of North Carolina were able to show on the strength of exact analyses that these figures had general validity and that a rise in the birth rate can be expected after a drop caused by the legalisation of contraceptive methods.

Biometricians have used the methods of mathematics and population statistics when dealing with the fluctuations caused by complicated ecological factors among anopheles mosquitoes, the species that spreads malaria.

Klaus Dietz of the Division of Epidemiological Research in the World Health Organisation reported to the conference about this, adding that this work was meant to calculate the best way of fighting the disease.

Biometricians have also shown that cancer cells or malignant blood cells have under certain circumstances their own "population" that multiplies according to its own mathematical and statistical laws.

This multiplication occurs in different ways at the centre and on the edges of a tumour. Several biological factors have to be considered. These and similar investigations are of the greatest importance in cancer treatment.

This is particularly true for radiation treatment of malignant tumours. Computers are already at work analysing typical cases and biometric data fed into it and calculating accurately the dose of radiation necessary for treatment and other details that doctors today can hardly be expected to work out without the help of such a machine.

Biometrics is of special importance in the development of new drugs, examining them for desired and undesired side-effects.

Here the establishment of norms is very important. Effects and side-effects can only be measured exactly by means of norms. As well as these norms there should be knowledge of varieties of normal drug compatibility.

Today for example there is an almost incalculable number of inherited varieties that can make a person particularly sensitive or largely insensitive to a drug.

Isoniazide (INH) used in the treatment of tuberculosis is very quickly excreted by some patients, reported J. Feingold of the Unité de Recherches de Génétique



Médicale in Paris. Other patients take four times as long.

As INH is not a harmless substance this longer stay in the body and the higher concentration thus effected is of danger to these people. The reason they take so long to excrete the substance can be traced to an inherited enzyme variety.

Similar results are obtained with succinylcholin, a substance used by anaesthetists to deaden muscles. While "normal" people have no trouble in others it can cause serious respiratory difficulties which are fatal.

Here again the cause is an enzyme variety. Its efficiency varies according to whether the person affected has inherited it from both parents or only one.

It has recently been shown that this gene variety, which also seems to influence compatibility with other drugs, can be modified by other factors.

But what happens if none of the healthy people collected to test out a new drug has this extremely rare and "abnormal" variety?

In spite of all rests there could then be untoward incidents, even cases of death, those unavoidable events that represent the danger of such a highly industrialised and technical society.

We still know too little about all the possible genetic varieties that alter the decomposition of alien bodies in our organism and the absorption of the resultant bi-products.

The thalidomide case showed how problematical it is to use the simple pattern of cause and effect as a norm.

Christoph Wolff

(DIE WELT, 20 August 1970)

Radioactivity slowly decreases

Artificial radioactivity in the atmosphere is decreasing according to a report drawn up by the Ministry of Health with the cooperation of the Ministries of Home Affairs, Transport, Food and Education and Science.

The report adds however that it is essential to continue round-the-clock inspection.

In spite of the low level of radioactivity in the atmosphere tests and research will continue into the development of effective means to decontaminate food. This is a preventive measure.

The report states that the forty or so measuring stations in the Federal Republic have established that last year's level of radioactivity was generally at or below the level of activity recorded in the Federal Republic before the series of tests in 1961 and 1962.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 21 July 1970)

Biometricians meet at Hanover to discuss problems

The development and advance of new technological sciences helped the scientific discipline of biometrics to expand and there is still no end to this growth in sight.

The dictionary states that biometrics is a collective term for the recording and processing of measurements and statistics in all areas of biology.

Behind this laconic definition is concealed a factor of control that decides whether scientific progress will be a blessing or a curse to mankind.

Computers have enabled development to be swift but the real fathers of biometrics are Pascal, the Bernoulli brothers and Laplace who developed the theory of probabilities in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

The modern-day version of this theory of probabilities gives biology a method to examine extraordinarily complicated biological and sociological relations.

The aim is to estimate the risks involved in the steps planned to alter the world and our environment to our advantage. The task of biometrics is to guarantee a maximum of success and a minimum of danger.

The importance of this work can be seen in the range of functions biometrics has. It tests new drugs, examines health and welfare measures such as birth control and employs both biologists and sociologists to study problems of pollution.

Over 600 scientists of all disciplines came from 31 countries to the Stadthalle in Hanover to attend the seventh International Biometrics Conference, the first time that this has taken place in this country since the Biometrics Society was founded in 1947.

The conference, which lasted until 21 August, was chaired by Professor Berthold Schneider of Hanover Medical College.

Ninety-one lectures dealt with the findings and problems of biometrics. Statistics and formulae seemed to stand in the forefront but behind this could be seen the effort to develop controlled tests to help improve the conditions we all live under.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 August 1970)



■ FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

A more equitable tax system cannot be built up in a flash!

VORWÄRTS
sozialdemokratische
wochenzeitung für politik, wirtschaft und kultur

In the statement of government policy after his election victory Willy Brandt said *briefly and to the point*: "The tax reforms announced during the previous legislative period will be put into action by the new government."

Brandt's statement on 28 October 1969 pointed to what the SPD/FDP government has made one its most important duties on the domestic scene. It is one of the major tasks facing not only the government parties but also the whole Bundestag in this the sixth legislative period since the establishment of the Federal Republic.

In all there are around fifty different taxes levied by the Bonn, the Federal states and local councils. As income taxes, wealth taxes, turnover taxes and purchase tax they are interwoven and in many ways overlap.

Our tax system is a jungle in which even experts get lost. The tangled undergrowth has burgeoned as the result of unsystematic and spur-of-the-moment amendments.

This complicated situation makes it difficult, if not impossible, to share the burden of taxation fairly among the rich and the not so rich.

Tax reforms will have two major aims in view. Firstly the whole system must be simplified. Secondly a way must be found to share the burden of taxation more fairly. There are two panels concentrating on tax reform, the Tax Reform Commission, set up during the Grand Coalition and the Finance Ministry Tax Reform Group, headed by State Secretary Professor Haller. Finance Minister Alex Möller has given these two panels pointers to help them find the clue but he has never tried to persuade them that it would be simple to find an ideal solution to both aspects of the problem.

A conflict of aims is unavoidable. As Alex Möller has emphasised time and time again the priority in the search for the key is to simplify taxation but only to the point where simplification does not undermine the justice of taxes levied. In the end just taxation is more important than simple and comprehensible taxation. Compromises will be unavoidable.

One of the major aspects of tax reform is amendments to income tax. This will be comparatively easy to introduce.

A more just system of income taxation, that is to say unburdening the lower income groups and demanding more from the higher income groups can be effected by re-drawing the sliding scale of taxation. This and a reformation of the system of taxation at source can be brought about fairly simply without making the tariffs too complicated.

The same applies to the system of estimates for gauging profit and income levels. The present system of deductions from income or as the case may be from profits can lead to anomalies in a scheme of things where the burden of taxation is different in different cases. What the various panels must decide is whether and to what extent they should replace the present system of leveying taxes according to a tax assessment basis with a system where in certain cases the taxes are levied in accordance with tax liability.

This is a question that also arises in the case of the many special allowances.

The lawmakers have in this respect already taken quite a few decisions. For example there are the amendments to legislation concerning the accumulation of capital wealth.

These have included the far more just system of additional allowances in place of the previous measures of tax reliefs.

It is quite likely that the Tax Reform Commission will be swayed by this argument when it comes to make its recommendations. It will mean a certain amount of extra administrative work but this will probably be considered as the lesser evil. It is unlikely that the Commission will allow extra administrative work to dissuade it from making a suggestion it considers more just and that will lead to fairer taxation for all.

Similar considerations will be in force when decisions are taken on the form that special expeditures will take in the future. In this respect the main consideration is to make the tax legislation and legislation concerning premiums in campaigns to promote saving and in connection with life insurance more compatible.

Two essential guidelines

In connection with this the tax reformers will not have to loose sight of two essential guidelines. Firstly they must simplify the number of diverse, conflicting and insufficient measures, and make them more harmonious. Secondly they must attempt to improve the effectiveness of the measures already in force and the new ones they will introduce particularly with regard to the government's social welfare policy aims.

Reform of corporation tax could lead to great complications. In this respect the question that continually arises is whether we can adhere to the present system of placing a burden of taxation both on the corporation itself and, on the other hand, the partners and shareholders in the firm.

Several suggestions have already been made on reform of this legislation ranging from the situation reports of the advisory committee attached to the Finance Ministry in Bonn to the so-called Stützel Plan.

The number of decisions that have to be made in this sphere covers a wide area and the Tax Reform Commission will have to weigh up carefully which procedure it finally recommends.

It will have to take into consideration the fact that not only the conditions obtaining in the Federal Republic now and in the future are essential but must also bear in mind that any steps taken now to improve the corporation tax systems in this country will have to fit into such systems in the whole of the European Economic Community (EEC) where similar reforms are in the planning stage.

The standards and requirements of Europe as whole will also have to be given careful consideration when it comes to the reformation of wealth tax and death duties.

Any taxes levied in this country in the immediate future must not diverge too greatly from taxes raised in other European Economic Community countries. If they do this will inevitably lead to undesirable and, for us, disadvantageous flowing of capital from one nation to another.

This is not, however, the most tricky problem in the reformation of surtax and death duties. A far more heated debate is going on about the form of the new rates for these taxes. In other words how can the present anomalies and injustices in these tax systems can be removed.

On more than one occasion Finance Minister Alex Möller has made it clear that he foresees no radical solution to these problems. That is to say he will n[ot] seek legislation empowering his Minis[try] to confiscate property.

Nevertheless it has become increasing[ly] clear that this is a decisive point in t[he] formulation of fairer tax legislation.

The aspects of tax legislation th[e] members of the Tax Reform Commiss[ion] must take into consideration are nu[m]erous and extremely diverse, as has be[en] said, in fact those listed in this article [are] far from being the complete roll-call.

In addition to all this there is [a] general question of how our overall [tax] system should look when the refo[rms] have been completed and implemented.

It is still too early to give a defi[nite] answer to this question. One point that [is] undeniable is that tax-payers will not [be] able to look forward to lower taxes in t[he] face of the many ambitious governme[nt] schemes in the coming years.

Increased taxation

In fact it seems likely that the tot[al] burden of taxation will have to be increased. In recent weeks practical[ly] eveyone has come to see that this is the case.

At the Social Democratic party conference in Saarbrücken the Finance Minister, Alex Möller, gave a clear indication of this when he stated that the total burden of taxation in the national economy was not, as far as he was concerned, a sacred cow, but rather an ox that wa[s] there to drag the cart of neglected reforms and neglected infra-structu[re] from the mire.

Some time will pass before the new measures take effect. The present schedule for carrying out tax reforms includes three stages. The bulk of the deliberations in the Bundestag will take place in 1971 and 1972 and the tax reforms should become law by autumn, 1972. This would mean a year of transition and the new taxation system would not actually come into force until 1 January 1974.

These reform should contribute to the modernisation of our social system and greater social justice in Federal Republic society in the future.

(VORWÄRTS, 13 August 1970)

Obligatory minimum reserves increased to counteract imported capital

After one of the longest sessions of the Central Committee of the Bundesbank it was decided on the evening of 12 August that the required minimum reserve level would be raised again with effect from 1 September.

This decision was not really a great surprise, though the inordinate length of this session of the Committee indicates that the members of the bank of issue did not take the decision at all lightly.

What should have been done? Economic trends in the Federal Republic indicate that there is a continuing high pressure on centres of production, particularly with regard to the demand for capital goods required for industrial production.

With this in mind the Central Bank Committee had no alternative but to stick to its restrictive policies.

However, this restrictive line was still threatened by outside forces – it was being undermined from abroad. In July alone four thousand million Marks in foreign exchange came to this country.

The figure for June was only slightly less. These large sums of money coming in from abroad swell the amount of capital available here. However, with effect from 1 July minimum reserve requirements lopped off two-thirds of this capital.



The decision taken at the last session of the Committee to reduce Bank Rate and the Lombard Rate just before the four-week summer recess, only had a temporary effect. The reason for this was that the interest rate on short-term loans abroad was reduced by half of one per cent to keep in step with this country.

This meant no change – the difference in interest rates was restored. A further reduction of Federal Republic Bank Rate would not have fitted into the economic scene, however.

In mid-July the bank of issue made people suspicious that it was, without giving the matter enough thought, paying homage to the government's fiscal measures for braking the runaway economy.

If Bank Rate had been further reduced from seven per cent there would have no point in making renewed claims that "we will cling to our policies limiting the supply of finances until the measures taken by the central government have begun to show real effects and in particular until autonomous groups show that they are prepared to pursue a line that will promote stable prices and stable wages."

Such a step at the present moment would have opened a credibility gap in Bundesbank claims.

This situation does not alter the fact that the general public is beginning to doubt seriously whether or not unilateral measures to limit the amount of liquid cash the banks have to offer will really lead to economic stability.

The Central Bank Committee would be well advised to limit itself at the moment to a further turn of the screw of minimum reserve requirements, even though nothing can hide the fact that it has in addition allowed a slight relaxation.

For these measures affect only around 2.7 thousand million Marks of the banks' liquid cash, that is to say about one half of the money that flowed into the Federal Republic from abroad in June and July, and which was not cut back by the previous increase to the required minimum reserve level.

We must not overlook the fact that when the newly introduced tax prepayments take effect in September this will make great demands on the banks' liquidity.

(Handelsblatt, 14 August 1970)

■ INDUSTRY

Motor manufacturers' vicious price-cost circle

People in the Federal Republic, it is well known, love and cherish their car. It is very dear to them and recently it has become even dearer! This country's major car manufacturers Volkswagen and Daimler-Benz have raised the prices for their sparkling chromium-plated products by up to five per cent.

These increases have come less than a year after the last which also raised list prices by around five per cent.

Whereas Wolfsburg (VW) camouflaged this unpopular step to a greater or lesser extent with improvements to their models, Untertürkheim (Daimler-Benz) covered their tracks with the alibi of increased costs.

As far as other automobile manufacturers are concerned, Opel, Ford, BMW and Audi-NSU are still trying to allay suspicions that they have formed a concerted action committee. Their administrative headquarters have issued statements to the effect that they are following market trends and price developments closely.

Looking back at the procedure when prices were increased at the end of last year we can see that it is fairly certain that Volkswagen and Mercedes competitors will not just stand on the touchline and watch developments.

Foreign car manufactureres will adopt a similar attitude and in Italy, for example, there has long been talk of price increases.

The car industry has stood for some time at the "wailing wall". Steadily increasing costs have given leading motor manufacturers sleepless nights as they were quick to point out at press conferences in the spring.

Metal is dearer, tyres are dearer, batteries are dearer. Components are more expensive and so are the men who are paid to assemble vehicles. Motor industry workers have been making wage demands and the next round of wage tariff talks is scheduled for the autumn.

"Iron Man" Otto Brenner, leader of the metalworks' union, executives in most motor manufacturing firms claim, will put the screws on them.

There is no doubt about it – motor manufacturing costs have risen and are still rising. Experts estimate that the total increase for the year will be approximately 15 per cent.

The producers are likely to exceed this figure when they raise prices. They have stated that after the "moderate" increases last year they are out to recoup two-thirds of increased costs with increased prices.

What they forget to mention is that productivity has increased so that in all additional extra costs are around five per cent. Automobile manufacturers are not making such modest demands as they would like motorists to believe. Volkswagen boss Kurt Lotz said: "Without further ado we could have made much stiffer price increases last time."

Why should they not put up their prices? Salesrooms are emptied of new models almost as soon as they are delivered. Domestic turnover in the motor industry last year increased by 29 per cent. In the first six month of this year it increased a further 17 per cent. This means that since the start of 1970 there are 800,000 new cars on the streets of the Federal Republic. Productivity is not expected to fall greatly in the second halt of this year.

Exports have declined a little which means that it has been possible to shorten delivery dates. The motor industry expects an increase of ten per cent in turnover this year and its expectations are most likely to be fulfilled.

Whether profits keep in step with increased productivity and turnover is another story.

1969 was an exceptional year in which turnover increased more than costs and wages.

Accordingly profits were high. Volkswagen made 500 million marks, Opel (this country's second largest car manufacturer) had profits of approximately 400 million Marks, Ford, thanks largely to the success of their Capris made 234 million Marks profit.

No wonder Opel boss Mason answered laconically when told that his company had earned around 500 Marks for each car that came off the assembly line, "We are proud of this figure."

Only a few months have past but motor manufacturers are no longer interested in such figures. The past is of no interest to them, only the future.

The future looks anything but rosy with regards to costs and turnover. Costs will increase more this year than turnover, which is the opposite of last year's trend as has already been said, and after two years of breathtaking economic boom turnover and sales will not increase to any appreciable extent.

It is possible that current price increases and those on the way will contribute towards pushing the car industry into a period of recession as happened in 1966-1967. In addition to this the increase in compulsory car insurance premiums in 1971 is likely to have a detrimental effect on sales.

Meantime the motor industry wants to cash in, particularly as large investments are to be made in future on safer vehicles

Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger

and above all cars that do not pollute the air.

It is probably correct to assume that if the state of the market were different the industry would not have embarked on such a risky price policy. In a free market economy the state of the market acts as umpire.

It is obvious that the most recent price increases are problematical in the light of general discussions on higher prices and the round of talks on new wage tariff agreements in the autumn.

Probably the wage increases in the autumn will provide an excuse for another increase in the cost of cars. There are more or less clear indications that this is in the wind already.

No one stands to benefit from these trends in the automobile industry since the lives of one in seven people in the Federal Republic are directly connected with cars.

Joseph Rothe

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 18 August 1970)

Quiet time for electronics industry

In the second trading quarter of this year the number of incoming contracts to the electronics industry in the Federal Republic was down considerably. The drop affected both domestic and foreign demand. The electronics industry association feels sure that the acme of the boom is past.

This falling off in demand will probably make it more difficult for the industry to pass off rising costs in higher prices and this could mean that the electronics industry is faced with a critical phase.

The industry's association says that this spring the rise in prices levelled off and by June had come to a standstill, In June 1970 prices were on average 7.5 per cent higher than in June 1969. Capital investment goods were nine per cent up on the year before, consumer goods were 3.5 per cent more expensive.

Orders may be down, but the electronics industry has experienced a growth in turnover and productivity which far surpasses the figure for the last quarter of 1969. This means that the backlog of orders has scarcely increased at all.

Trends vary between capital investment and consumer goods. Production and delivery of the former have suffered because of understaffing and the backlog of orders has increased considerably.

But it is expected that a start will be made in cutting this backlog in the coming months. The industry is expecting good business in consumer articles this autumn without have to raise the level of productivity.

(DIE WELT, 17 August 1970)

Photokina – the eyes of the world

Photokina in Cologne, to be held this year from 3 to 11 October will be bigger and more extensive than ever before, justifying its claim to be the "World Photographic Trade Fair".

One hundred thousand square metres of floor space will be available for exhibitors and 648 firms from 23 countries will show their wares. *Photokina* brings an extraordinarily extensive supply of photographic equipment together under one roof.

Around 1,600 photographs will be on exhibition and during the nine-day duration of *Photokina* 103 films from 23 countries will be shown in two special studios.

There will be a so-called "Action-Center" for young enthusiasts. Experts will be catered for at a film and photo congress centring round industry and technology.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 6 August 1970)

Colour television sales increase by leaps and bounds

More than a million homes in the Federal Republic have a colour television receiver. This means that the radio and television industries forecasts on the success or failure of colour TV in this country have been borne out, according to the latest reports issued by a group of experts from the industry covering the year 1969-1970.

Manufacturers have forecast for this year a turnover of 800,000 to 900,000 sets of which between fifteen and twenty per cent would be exported. If their predictions are again fulfilled 1.5 million families in this country will have a colour television set by the end of 1970.

In the trading year 1969 the industry's turnover was also boosted by the trend towards top-quality versatile radio receivers. The total value of sets produced (excluding dictaphones, recorded tapes and records) increased by 27 per cent to 4.2 thousand million Marks as opposed to 3.3 thousand million Marks last year.

Of this figure 2.6 thousand million Marks was accounted for by radio and television sets as opposed to 2.1 thousand million Marks last year.

Latest figures show that in the first six months of 1970 production increased by as much as 42 per cent. The report states that with this figure the industry's expectations were fulfilled and manufacturers can count on satisfactory turnover figures for 1970.

An important contributor to the success of last year was the export market. Exports of television sets increased by 46.7 per cent from 300 million to 440 million Marks. Radio exports went up by 21.5 per cent from 323.5 million Marks to 393.5 million Marks.

The picture was not so encouraging in the first five months of 1970. The export market for coloured television sets shot up by 84 per cent, but the black and white receiver market which is more important dropped by 22 per cent. Between January and May this year the exports of radios was roughly at the same level as in the corresponding period of 1969.

The industry's export volume, based on the 1969 production figures, dropped by 23 per cent between 1 January and 31 May 1970. The group of experts from the industry blames this partly on rising costs in the industry forcing higher prices.

The trend from black and white to colour television is also noticeable on the home market. Sales of monochrome sets this year have slumped by 5.7 per cent. Sales of colour television sets, however, have generally speaking been double the sales figures for the corresponding period of 1969.

Last year total sales were around 2.9 million of which half a million were colour sets. This meant an increase of 12 per cent in sales of black and white receivers and an 81 per cent increase in colour sets.

Sales of radios last year were around 6.6 million as opposed to the year before when only 5.5 million were sold. In the first few months of 1970 business has remained lively.

Such extensive growth figures are somewhat surprising considering the state of saturation of the market. In July this year 16.3 million TV sets were registered. This means that over 73 per cent of homes in this country have a set. The figure of 19.5 million licensed radio sets means a saturation rate of over 87 per cent. The biggest boost comes, of course, from the increased need to replace superannuated sets with new models.

A great number of people buying new TV sets for old go for colour sets.

As far as radios are concerned a higher standard of living and greater leisure and pleasure time have boosted the sales of portable sets which served as a family's second or third radio receiver and are known in the jargon of the industry as "the granny's set" or "the children's radio".

Manufacturers are content that one car in three has a radio and that the figure will soon be one in two. Sales of larger domestic radios are still encouraging with old simple models often being replaced by up-to-date stereo radios with hi-fi tuners and separate speakers.

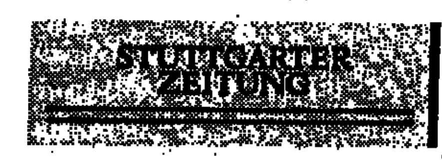
The industry's exhibition will be held for the 27th time in Düsseldorf from 21 to 30 August. It is expected that 230 firms from this country and abroad will exhibit. Last year's exhibition held in Stuttgart attracted over 700,000 visitors.

(DIE WELT, 15 August 1970)

■ AVIATION

A flight in Europe's last Zeppelin

ARE AIRSHIPS LIKELY TO MAKE A COMEBACK?



Birds shot off out of harm's way, hens ran squawking for their lives, cows craned their necks and people waved and waved. The captain of the airship told the three of us, passengers, to go ahead and wave back. In the squally weather he had his work cut out handling the altitude rudder.

A real rudder it is, too, and not a lever or a joystick as in small or large aircraft. It is a wheel like the one on the bridge of ships.

On board an airship nothing is the same as on board an aircraft. The first difference was in clambering on board. As usual we waited for the previous complement to disembark but the head of ground staff shouted to us to get on board first.

On reflection it was obvious that we had to do just that. Suddenly relieved of the weight of three passengers the airship would have been lighter and sailed back into mid-air had not the nine men on the tow-ropes been able to hold it down

The most important criterion, flying itself, is also different and conveys an entirely different impression to that of flying in an aircraft. Flying is not the word; ballooners and airshippers talk of going for a ride.

The airship swims in mid-air and ploughs through the atmosphere like a submarine ploughs through the briny. This is the strength and beauty of airship travel but at the same time has always been its drawback too.

At any given moment the airship must approximately at least be as heavy or as light as the surrounding air. Now the atmosphere varies in temperature and pressure at various altitudes and the airship itself grows lighter in weight as its fuel is consumed and the gas in its cigar-shaped balloon gives more or less uplift depending on atmospheric pressure.

Keeping something afloat in mid-air, playing off the forces of nature against one another, is one of Man's oldest dreams. People who appear or are able to do it — magicians and high-wire artists — can be sure of the admiration of the general public.

This is probably the reason for the emotion-laden, almost mystical attraction that airships exercise to this day, in an age of jumbo jets and technological progress.

Jumbos also exploit the forces of nature but they fail to keep themselves hovering in mid-air. Instead they brutally dominate nature with the aid of horse power, which is the reason for the infernal noise they make. The airship in contrast glides majestically through the heavens to the accompaniment of a subdued hum.

We could have been walking on the waters as we glided down to water level over the cliffs of Dieppe and drifted over the water parallel to the beach. Hundreds of holidaymakers stopped swimming, sunbathing and playing to watch us and wave.

Back they came in their hundreds that evening to admire this seemingly archaic, age-old craft as it was anchored and tied to its mooring and settled down for the night.

Yet this, at present the only remaining airship in all Europe, is a serious business enterprise. Its owners are Deutsche Luftschiffahrtsgesellschaft mbH & Co KG, or two Krefeld businessmen and airship enthusiasts.

In 1968 the two men bought up what was left of the airship, which was originally built under American licence in this country for a mail-order firm and later taken over by a chocolate manufacturer, making it shipshape and ready to fly again in fourteen months of hard work.

Since then the airship has operated as an advertising medium for another firm, last year in this country, this year in France, next year in Italy. "And we have no financial problem", one of the two men comments.

This is something new. The history of dirigibles has been one of loss and deficit. At long last one of them is running at — well, perhaps not a profit, but must certainly be earning its keep. Merely as an advertising medium.

Merely? The advertising director of the French subsidiary of the firm in question leaves through an entire file full of newspaper cuttings. There is never a mention of the firm's products, solely of the airship itself. But every article was accompanied by a picture of the airship on which the firm's name loomed large and unmistakeable.

Indirect advertising is the word for it and it is said to be worth millions to the firm every year. Could not advertising flights then be combined with passenger travel to a far greater degree than is possible with such a small craft as the present one?

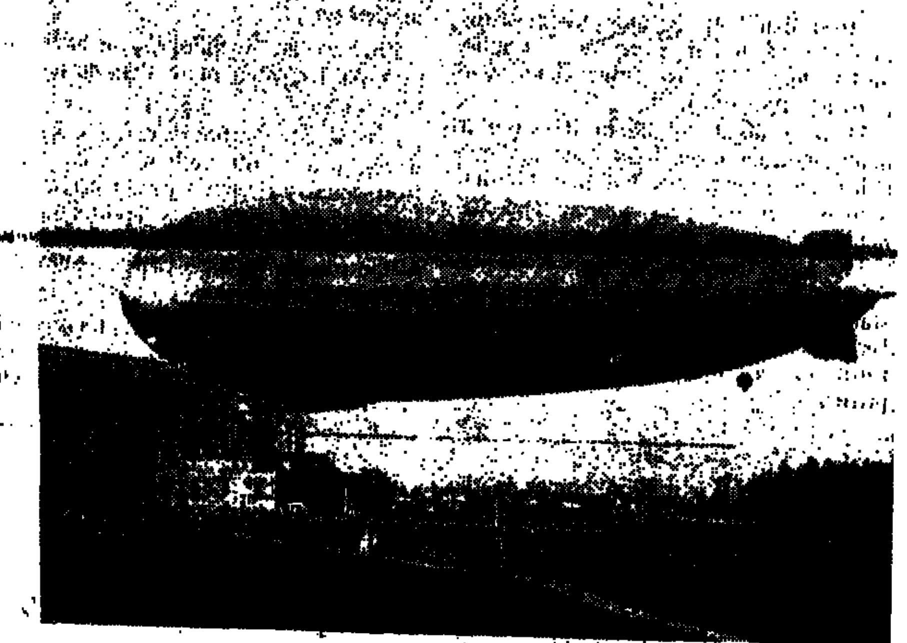
Age-old mystique and the like is a minor consideration. In the Western half of the world careful costing and business methods occupy pride of place.

For the Americans, the leading Western nation, the results of costing appear to have been positive. They intend to build four mini-Zeppelins for this very purpose.

Deutsche Luftschiffahrt have similar plans involving the maxi look. This country's successor to the Zeppelin is to be 200 metres long and carry not only passengers and advertising but also freight; special transports such as large generators or entire turbines, locomotives or commercial vehicles.

Depending on the cargo a great many cost factors could be eliminated — disassembly following trials, reassembly on site, transhipment and storage. A Zeppelin of the kind envisaged could carry a payload of 100 tons half way round the world in next to no time.

Conventional airship construction and technology have not yet reached this stage, though. An airship could not hover over a works site and jettison water ballast while taking on cargo. The entire works would be submerged. Other ways and means of keeping the craft hovering must be developed.



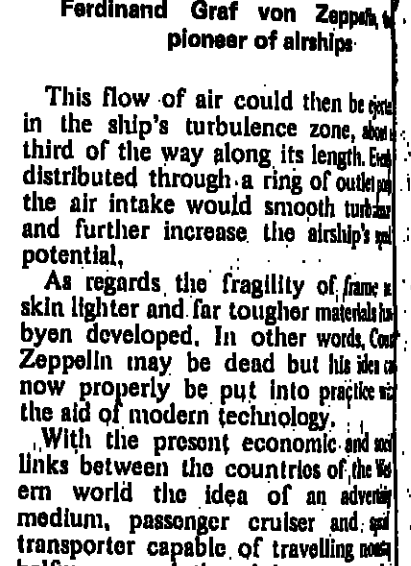
The LZ 127, Graf Zeppelin, one of the largest airships ever built

(Photos: Staatsbibliothek Berlin)

Landing too is a far cry from the pioneer days. The inflammable helium now used is a good deal more expensive than the dangerous hydrogen used by Count Zeppelin and cannot simply be pumped back into the atmosphere.

Ways and means must thus be found of compressing helium on board and in flight and the liquefied gas must be converted back into its gaseous state in exact accordance with the requirements of the craft. The airship would then be rid of the problematic and crucial question of ballast and could then genuinely operate in the air like a submarine under water.

The other major problem is that of speed. Present construction methods limit airships to a speed not exceeding 94 miles an hour. Any faster and the weight of the engine would ground the craft for good. It would be too heavy for take-off and too fragile to withstand atmospheric resistance. Aerodynamic research has revealed that half the atmospheric resistance concentrates on a twenty-foot diameter circle at the front end of the fuselage. Half of this resistance could be eliminated by boring a hole in the nose of the ship.



Ferdinand Graf von Zeppelin, the pioneer of airships

This flow of air could then be ejected in the ship's turbulence zone, about a third of the way along its length. Evenly distributed through a ring of outlets the air intake would smooth turbulence and further increase the airship's speed potential.

As regards the fragility of frame and skin lighter and far tougher materials have byen developed. In other words, Count Zeppelin may be dead but his idea can now properly be put into practice with the aid of modern technology.

With the present economic and social links between the countries of the Western world the idea of an advertising medium, passenger cruiser and goods transporter capable of travelling nonstop halfway round the globe at a speed of 200 to 250 miles an hour is an attractive one indeed.

Were it only already afloat it could, bearing in mind Man's age-old dream, be sure of success. But who is going to give it the opportunity?

It appears to be uninteresting from the government's point of view, unlike vertical take-off jets, which although their prospects are slenderer, are considered more important for military reasons.

All that remains is industry and the businessman's approach, but who can cost to the nearest pfennig the age-old human desire to make something hover in mid-air, an archaic, mystical, emotional longing? Business cannot walk on the waters. It needs the terra firma of profit and loss accounting under its feet.

In this respect the Soviet Union has an easier time of it. It is reputed to be constructing nuclear-powered airships for transporting strategic and other goods and passengers to Siberia and the Chinese frontier. In theory the nuclear dirigibles could stay aloft for seven years on end.

The Americans too stop being mere businessmen at some stage or other and are prepared to pay for prestige projects such as the first landing on the Moon or Mars.

Because rockets are growing larger and larger an airship is specially to be developed to ship rockets from their places of manufacture to Cape Kennedy.

So it looks very much as though the Germans, the inventors of the Zeppelin, which between 1919 and 1937 spent 20,797 hours aloft conveying 45,3[..] passengers, 43,200 kilos of freight and 53,088 kilos of air mail on 756 flights are destined to lose out again.

This relapse into nationalism of a reporter who is otherwise cosmopolitan in character only goes to show how little the airship, rational reasons regardless, is a matter of hard-headed common sense.

It is a dream, the dream of weightless hovering and days aloft and far away from the world and its problems. At the same time it is a dream that could be put into practice. Is that not worth the money?

Rolf Speidel

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 15 August 1970)

Upward trend in civil aviation

In the first six months of this year the longstanding upward trend in civil aviation at the ten major airports in this country continued. According to the Airports Association the number of flight movements increased by 10.6 per cent over the corresponding period last year to 435,168.

The number of passengers handled rose by nineteen per cent to 13.8 million, or including transit passengers, by 18,6 per cent to 14.4 million.

Air freight, excluding transit freight, increased over the same period by 8.8 per cent to 223. 697 tons.

(Lübecker Nachrichten, 19 August 1970)

OUR WORLD

Two different approaches to tackling Munich's drug problem

This country's largest market for hashish in Munich is becoming more and more of a problem. The drug hashish which causes only dependence but not addiction is being supplied more and more often mixed with addictive opiates to the consumer. Doctors, psychologists, the youth welfare office and the police are powerless to do much about it. For legal reasons they are not able to explan to young people how to distinguish between this dangerous adulterated hashish and the less dangerous pure drug.

Munich chief of police, Manfred Schreiber, gave up in despair on Friday 31 July when an unconventional woman came to him with an unconventional request.

Psychologist Ursula Sieber had started a move to show hashish smokers in Schwabing, the Bohemian quarter of Munich, how to get their hands on 'clean' hashish. On the following Monday the Munich police headquarters came to the decision that they could not possibly answer this request.

Dealing in hashish is a punishable offence and the police are unable to take any steps to show hashish smokers how they can come by supplies.

Ursula Sieber thought differently. She worked on the basic fact that hash is smoked come what may and despite efforts to educate young people on its dangers being undertaken by "the commission for the prevention of the abuse of narcotics" headed by Burgomaster Steinkohl, consumption of the drug can only be checked in the far distant future.

In the meantime, however, as Ursula Sieber hastened to point out, something is happening on the Munich hashish scene that could frustrate even the long-term hopes of the commission.

In the past drug-pushers purposely mixed opiates with hashish in order to claim addicts as permanent "milchcows". Today they are doing it mainly for economic reasons.

Recruitment campaigns by drug-pushers are hardly necessary since the market for dope is steadily increasing. The point is that at the moment raw opium only fetches about half the price of Indian hemp on the black market.

Ursula Sieber said: "Schoolchildren who wanted to experiment with soft drugs could at least be sure in the past that they would not become addicts. Now they run the risk that without knowing it they are being stuffed full of opium and in a short while will become wrecks of humanity."

For this reason Ursula Sieber and her husband Georg who is head of the psychology department at Munich police headquarters commissioned commercial artist Michael Wedell to design a warning poster to be hung in clubs and bars in Schwabing.

They intend to give advice by means of demonstrations on how youngsters can tell by the smell and colour and the smell of the smoke whether opium is included in the hashish they buy.

Georg Sieber said with an air of regret: "While the law still classes hashish along with LSD, opium and other addictive drugs our action makes us guilty of accessories before the fact of an illegal action."

At a press conference given by the narcotics commission Dr Wolfgang Wirtz from the Klinikum rechts der Isar said: "Physical dependence on drugs is only one aspect. Hashish can always cause psychological dependence and so we have to fight against it." He was not in favour of Ursula and Georg Sieber's campaign.

Instead the narcotics commission intends to fight a campaign over a broad front and will suggest the following measures to the city council in the next few days:

*An advisory centre will be set up at which hash smokers who, to use Dr Wirtz's words, "feel ill" can take action to help themselves.

*An advice and treatment centre should be set up at the Klinikum rechts der Isar supervised by the head of the toxicology department Dr von Clarmann. This centre would be able to treat acute cases of drug addiction.

*"Contacts" should be made in schools. The idea would be for a master and a pupil from one of the upper classes to attend seminars which would train them to give advice to fellow pupils and also help the advisory centres get to the bottom of youth problems.

*An explanatory brochure should be issued on narcotics. This is already planned for the not too distant future.

The narcotics commission has made its main task to give young people help and advice rather than simply to condemn hashish.

Burgomaster Steinkohl, himself a doctor, realises that the problem of drug-taking among young people is partly a protest against a materialist society, partly linked with the problems of puberty and partly a trend of the generation.

(Münchner Merkur, 12 August 1970)

Women and newspapers – they read the last page first!

Experts have maintained that women have X-ray eyes – at least when it comes to reading a newspaper. They pick up every mistake, every misprint and every oversight, and they are far more likely than men to get out their writing pad and dash off a letter of complaint, whenever they feel that something has been incorrectly reported.

Analyses of newspaper circulations conducted by scientific institutes have shown that it is preponderantly the female readership that decides whether a newspaper's star is rising or falling.

This is an important factor that no publishing house and no editorial office dare overlook, be it a daily paper, a weekly or a colour magazine.

The researchers have answered questions such as how a woman reads a newspaper, what interests her, if she is interested more in the sentimental, the sensational or the practical, does she favour local news or political news and what are her attitudes to the woman's page.

A meeting of the study group "Der Bürger im Staat" at Constance recently examined the women's pages of magazines. It was discovered that what the experts, journalists and editors, considered the most important items for the woman's page in fact were subject to much criticism. The most popular themes are fashion, education, problems around the house, health, professions and careers, consumer questions, emancipation and sex.

Of 100 various women's pages that were studied not one covered politics. It was decided at the conference that women's pages could often help to solve difficult problems such as female emancipation in society.

It was stated that one of the main reasons that women rarely show great interest in political reports is that they are written so unappetisingly. They are too dry. Women tend to regard political reporting as something abstract which reeks of dusty tomes.

It is necessary to make women's pages readable and attractive for men as well, since matters that concern women are often of interest to men, and can help men rid themselves of outdated false ideas.

Recently I have asked women whom I have seen reading newspapers what is of special interest to them. One interesting dicovery I have made is that women often read the backpage of a newspaper first.

One exception was Herta B. (she asked this paper not to divulge her full name) who is a mother of three school-age children. She said: "In the morning after I have packed the urchins off to school I read the serialised novel in the newspaper. In the afternoon I read the other pages. I have to gen up on sport and politics otherwise the children look down on me because I cannot join in their conversations."

Lia Kasimier on the other hand is a very critical newspaper reader. She is interested in politics and not only reads articles and leaders but also compares them. It is understandable that her specific interest is for articles concerning her husband, the chairman of the SPD parliamentary party at the Lower Saxony regional assembly. She makes provision for getting a copy of her favourite newspapers while on holiday.

(Hannoversche Presse, 1 August 1970)

Every fifth woman takes The Pill

Every fifth woman in the Federal Republic over the age of seventeen takes the contraceptive pill, according to a survey conducted by the Wickert Institute in Tübingen.

Wickert conducted the survey on behalf of the World Health Organisation (WHO). Only twelve per cent of the women questioned take the Pill as part of a programme of family planning.

Twenty-nine per cent use the Pill to avert psychological problems arising from the fear of becoming pregnant. When questioned about whether contraceptives should be on open sale 89 per cent of the women agreed they should. A similar survey conducted in 1964 showed that only 47 per cent were in favour of open sales of contraceptives.

(DIE WELT, 8 August 1970)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police aid

Bremen police officers have been called upon to prove in a most extraordinary manner that they are to the public at large "friends and helpers".

An agitated old lady aged 70 appeared at police headquarters in Bremen's centre compaining that she had been contaminated with 'rays', according to a statement made by the police press office.

With a straight face the old lady told police officers that for some time she had been bombarded by a neighbour with an electric ray

The police officers who heard her tale led the old lady with all seriousness to the police yard below. They stood her before a police car, turned on the warning light, the blinking side lights and the loudspeaker which gave out at intervals a piping sound.

After a while the old lady turned to the officers standing nearby and said: "I now feel much better. Thank you very much."

She was assured that if her neighbour should bombard her again with electric rays she could come back for further treatment.

(Hannoversche Presse, 8 August 1970)

Paper strike

Editors, including the chief-editor, of the *St. Pauli Nachrichten*, which is published in Hamburg with a circulation of 1,200,000 have quit in protest against the directors of the publishing company.

The editorial staff made a formal complaint that the publishing company's top men had tried to force their resignation "by putting pressure on us by means of false statements".

In addition the publishers are attacked for "undue interference in the make-up and general working of the paper".

The publishers of the sex paper have contested these complaints. They maintain in their turn that the editorial staff made unreasonable demands in that they wanted to allow the publishers no say in the material and lay-out of the paper.

Shortly after the editorial staff walked out new editors and a new editor-in-chief took their places.

The palace revolution in St Pauli will give the paper a new look, which we are told will be "sympathischer Sex" and no more political comment.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 August 1970)

Bag of laughter

Anyone who has found the Laughing Cavalier's mien infectious will go for the *bag of laughs* on sale in many department stores for twelve Marks. When squeezed the yellow bag emits a raucous chortle.

But a burglar in Hamburg failed to see the joke! The 24 year-old labourer broke into a joiner's shop and started searching for something to fill his swag-bag. He stumbled over one of the bags that the shop's proprietor had left in strategic positions as makeshift burglar alarms.

Scared out of his wits the burglar tried to stamp on the whinnying bag before neighbours arrived to investigate, but in the dark he stamped on his own foot!

As he hobbled out of the shop a policeman, who had arrived to see what the joke was, arrested him, or if you prefer "bagged" him!

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 4 August 1970)

SPORT

Federal League football head with high hopes into another season of debt

At four o'clock this Saturday afternoon eighteen teams will emerge from the changing-rooms at football grounds from Stutgart to Bremen to start the ball rolling for the eighth season of the Federal league.

Were the control committee to adhere strictly to the rules seven of the eighteen would be disqulified from the word go. Paragraph 13 of the Federal league statutes stipulates that a club must be able to prove that it is economically sound.

Each club has to submit balance sheets and profit and loss accounts for the previous two seasons and seven of the present eighteen are between 500,000 and 1,800,000 Marks in the red, which would seem to be more than sufficient grounds for disqualification.

Were the control committee to adopt a tough approach chairman Rudi Gramlich would first have to eject Eintracht Frankfurt, the club he chaired for seventeen years before his surprise resignation six weeks ago.

"We will have to take drastic measures otherwise the Federal league will go by the board," Gramlich thunders, stating why in his opinion, things have come to this pass. "We have not had the courage to give the amateurs the boot."

Ex-Frankfurt international Gramlich, with 22 caps to his credit, is an advocate of professional football clubs parting company with field and track athletes, gymnasts, boxers and other disciplines that cost the clubs money.

"We have been spending half a million Marks a year on them, the same amount we pay in tax. Every club member using the club's facilities costs us twenty Marks a month."

There is something in his claim that the amateurs are responsible for Federal league clubs' growing indebtedness. In

Süddeutsche Zeitung

1963 and 1964, the first two Federal league seasons, when the league proved to be an unparallelled money-spinner and club treasurers could not see the wood for trees the amateurs were keen to pocket their slice of the profits.

One of the arguments they were able to wield was that the Football Association had not granted the league licence to the football sections alone but to the club as a whole.

This was particularly true of traditionally mixed gymnastics and sports clubs such as Munich 1860, of which trainer Max Merkel once rightly claimed that he was dictated to by athletes and gymnasts.

Another condition that Federal league clubs must fulfil is that its officials must work in an honorary capacity and the club must be a non-profit making organisation.

Rudi Gramlich is opposed to the idea of clubs being allowed to set up as limited companies with shareholders. "People who provide capital want to see a profit," he comments. This works in Scotland, for instance where Rangers and Celtic of Glasgow pay respectable dividends. But this country is not Scotland.

The department of inland revenue has also benefited from the football boom. Over the past seven years Federal league clubs have paid 45 million Marks in tax.

"Five seasons ago the tax burden started to cripple us," Gramlich says, adding by way of reference to the high rentals and entertainments taxes the clubs pay to local authorities that "We have kept the local authorities out of the red."

In Spain clubs pay two per cent of their takings in tax. In Britain they get off scot free In this country eleven per cent value added tax, ten per cent entertainments tax, ten per cent ground rental and six per cent in contributions to the Football Association between them account for 37 per cent of gross takings before organisational costs such as ground staff, police, travel and training camps even get a look in.

In all fixed costs account for more than half the takings. Players must be paid from the remainder. Munich 1860, now relegated, paid its players approximately 100,000 Marks a month, for instance.

The continual call for tax relief has not gone unnoticed. An Act cutting turnover tax to five and a half per cent is to be passed this autumn. Munich has followed in other cities' footsteps and cut ground rental from ten via seven to five per cent. Entertainments tax has also been slashed from ten to five per cent.

Even so, Free Democratic city councillor Hans Jürgen Jaeger of Munich grumbles that in view of the high transfer fees paid he does not feel these cuts are justified.

Transfers still turn cool calculators into wild speculators. "Buying experienced players remains an expensive business," FA chairman Dr Hermann Gösmann admits.

This is a surprising admission for the fountainhead to have to make. On paper 100,000 Marks remains the highest transfer fee payable. The FA blotted its copy book in 1966, though, when Munich 1860 were allowed to pay 175,000 for Frankfurt back and occasional international Friedl Lutz.

Yet despite the decline in gate-money and increasing indebtedness football remains such a booming business that top-flight players change hands for fantastic wages payable in advance as it were, in expectation of their showing over the following four years.

The 1,200 Marks a month basic salary and 250 Marks match bonus maximum laid down in the statutes have long been forgotten.

"Transfer fees must be made subject solely to supply and demand," says Josef Hohenester, treasurer of the football section of Munich 1860, after the sale of Klaus Fischer. "What the clubs ought to be paid but are not allowed to receive is going straight into players' pockets as things stand at the moment."

Top trainers' top salaries have been another talking-point. Six years ago when Max Merkel of Vienna was engaged by Munich 1860 for 10,000 Marks a month there was a public outcry. Yet Chick Cajkovski of local rivals Bayern Munich was probably already earning slightly more on the quiet.

Both men subsequently managed to double their earnings and both were later sacked. The present trend is towards unknown but ambitious youngsters. Thirty-year-old Klaus Ochs of Hamburg SV has four players on his books who are older than he is. They include World Cup veterans Uwe Seeler and Willi Schulz.

"I do not feel that the financial situation is worsening," Dr Gösmann comments. "Everywhere entertainments tax and ground rental are being reduced." He does not add that clubs intend to improve their financial position by drastic increases in the price of tickets.

The price of tickets at Bökelberg stadium, Mönchengladbach, is nearly double what it was seven years ago. In Munich the increase is even more drastic. Stand seats have increased in price from ten to 25 Marks, the highest increase on record.

The cheapest ticket for the terraces costs six Marks – and spectators have neither a roof over their heads nor a particularly good view of the play.

Even so clubs are banking on the football craze among the general public and expect the till to ring merrily. "The World Cup ought to have brought the fans back." Fritz Walter, honorary captain of the national team and the man who captained the 1954 World-Cup-winning side, comments.

There is a widespread hope that the hue and cry of Mexico City will boost business. Udo Lattek, trainer of Bayern Munich, also believes in a trend towards attacking football, which is more to the liking of the crowds than goals that have scarcity value.

All in all the Federal league clubs expect to clamber out of the red. Meanwhile Rudi Gramlich as chairman of the FA Federal league committee is planning a revolution.

"The Federal league must be able to decide its own future and no longer be dependent on the amateurs," he demands. In this he has the support of chairman Wilhelm Neudecker of Bayern Munich, who adds that "We are hamstrung by regulations, such as that prohibiting advertising on players' shirts."

Hans Eiberle

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 August 1970)



Uwe! Uwe!

Ace footballer Uwe Seeler was elected Footballer of the Year with 256 votes out of a possible 687 sport journalists' votes. Seeler was twice before, in 1960 and 1964, elected to this honour, which is a golden football. This year he will keep the football because he was won it three times. Seeler has played for his home team, Hamburg HSV, and made a world record number of appearances in the national eleven. (Photo: Nordbild)

Chairs of physical education at Hanover and Brunswick

Göttingen University and Brunswick and Hanover technical colleges are to set up chairs of physical education during the 1971 financial year, Professor von Oertzen, Lower Saxon Education Minister, told representatives of the three colleges in the course of talks on development of sports staff training and facilities.

Close cooperation with the physical education department of the Lower Saxony teacher training college is aimed at intended to extend not only to physical education as a discipline but also to university sport as a whole.

At the request of Brunswick technical college the Minister agreed to grant the college permission to teach physical education as a subsidiary subject for students training to become secondary school teachers.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 August 1970)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10 —
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc. 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6 —
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr. $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu. 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F C F A. 30 —
Canada	Can. $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc. 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7 —
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2 50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT £ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.85
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B. 0.15
Paraguay	G. 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0 20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl. 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din. 1.—
Zambia	11 d